The Outlook

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Country Living City dwellers are very apt to confuse the real renaissance of country life with what is called the "back-to-the-land movement." Nothing could be much further from the truth. The fight for better living conditions for our rural citizens is not an external affair, foisted upon an indifferent population by well-meaning individuals from another walk of life; it is a spontaneous effort for self-improvement. This effort is gradually yet irresistibly shaping itself into a coherent and articulate demand for better schools, better housing, better roads, and greater facilities for direct co-operation between producer and consumer. The most effective leaders in this awakening are country-bred men—just as the most successful missionaries for scientific agriculture are to-day to be found in the ranks of the "practical" farmers. Any one with a supply of Government bulletins and a little leisure can soon "learn" that proper drainage, costly though it is, is a paying investment, or, for instance, that alfalfa adds nitrogen to the soil. Yet a mere statement of these truths will do about as much towards increasing the acreage of tile-drained lands or of alfalfa as the prophecies of Cassandra did towards the preservation of ancient Troy. The man who makes his fellow-farmers "stop, look, and listen" is the man who can take his neighbor out into his fields and say, "Six years ago I went in debt two thousand dollars to pay for subdraining those meadows. Then I grew alfalfa there for five years, and this spring plowed it under and planted it to corn, without a pound of fertilizer or manure. Look at it now, twelve feet high and still growing. That's what alfalfa and tile-drainage does for soil." It is difficult enough at best to learn from the experience of others. To expect farmers, or any one else, to learn from the second-hand theories of even the best-intentioned advisers is to expect too much of human nature—and perhaps too little of human intellect. This is what gives promise to the present widespread movement to make the country (we are not speaking of that "country" inhabited by lowing kine and fluttering butterflies, but of the "country" inhabited by dairy cattle and codling-moths) more livable—its real roots are not in books, but in the soil. It must not be inferred from this that the present-day leaders in country life decline to avail themselves of those resources at the command of the great schools of agriculture. In the first place, these schools themselves are growing increasingly practical; in the second place, the best leaders have already gone through the mill of experience and come to an understanding of actual conditions which even the most alluring of theories cannot destroy. What the colleges and schools can bring to these leaders is organization, and an opportunity for interchange of ideas. How this works out in actual practice can be well illustrated by an account of the Conference of Rural Community Leaders held recently under the auspices of the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst, Massachusetts, and the similar "School for Leadership in Country Life" conducted by the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University.

Two Conferences on Rural Problems The Conference of Rural Community Leaders at Amherst was the most successful and largely attended of the experience meetings which for four years have marked the regenerating influences at work in agricultural New England. Four perfect summer days, several hundred country ministers, educators, sanitarians, farmers, and just plain enthusiastic men and women; a few yards of electric wiring and bulbs strung through the maples on the campus of the Massachusetts Cottage, furnished the scene and the characters for this Conference. Some of the stories these men and women told were pathetic, some funny; all indicated splendid

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courage, pluck, and endurance of faith in the future. One minister told how he came to realize what a slight hold he had on the community in which he lived—and of his sudden conversion to a belief in the necessity of giving opportunities for healthful recreation to his fellow country-dwellers. That the country needs a chance for organized play may come as a novel idea to those who think in terms of city streets. "I had preached in that town seventeen years," the minister said simply, "before I myself was converted. It came about through a funeral in the country five miles out of the town. A man had died whom everybody loved. He was a good man who swore horribly, ran a threshing-machine, and died suddenly. I saw all these people at the funeral, and I was ashamed, because I did not know one of them by name. I decided to take my preaching to them, since they did not come to me. We began with an old-time country fair, without vulgar side-shows or midways full of fakers' tents; then we arranged a series of Bible-study socials for the winter evenings, and old-fashioned spelling matches. Once I organized a Sunday-school at a barn dance. Now every one of those people belongs to the church." Representatives of a round dozen of Massachusetts towns told similar stories, differing only in method and approach. All gave records of a growing community life started by some one definite effort; sometimes it was a women's club that built a library hall; sometimes a demonstration farm gave the impetus to new agricultural methods; again it was a good roads slogan which awakened the townspeople to other things they needed and might just as well have. Perhaps the most interesting feature of the programme was the session conducted by R. W. Stimson, of the State Board of Education, in which he gave a brief account of the progress of the twelve or fifteen "farm high schools" scattered throughout the State, representing the last word in vocational training. In some places there are country schools devoted to agriculture in which classical studies are incidental; in other places there is an agricultural instructor put on the faculty of a high school situated in a country district where twelve or fifteen boys have registered for the course. Neighboring farmers serve on the advisory boards and furnish the farms on which the boys work on part time during spring and fall—cattle-judging, chicken-farming, and arboriculture are thus taught in schools which do not own land or stock. Everywhere throughout the Conference meetings was visible the influence of the new extension service of the Agricultural College, organized four years ago for the purpose of carrying the work of the College throughout the State. The extension service is the alma mater of the farming town just as the College proper serves *in loco parentis* to the favored student who is able to come to her. And this recent Conference might be called almost a jubilee celebration of her sons and daughters. The school at Ithaca was similar in scope, though it drew its "scholars" from a wider field. Twenty-three States were represented on the attendance roll. The courses of instruction offered during the ten days of the school term included lectures on Rural Leadership, Rural Ethics, Rural Economics, the Farm House and the Farm Family, Rural Play and Rural Athletics. The afternoon and evening periods were devoted to demonstrations, conferences, field trips, and recreation. The lectures at Cornell are so arranged that they may be taken as a three years' course in Rural Leadership.

One Problem Solved

The little town of Amenia, Dutchess County, New York, has played an almost historic part in the solution of at least one of the problems dealt with by the conferences at Ithaca and Amherst. For four years now the citizens of this village have conducted an annual "Experiment in Co-operative Recreation," which has attracted widespread attention throughout the Eastern States. This experiment, though it hardly deserves that title any longer, consists in a great county picnic, or field day, offering to all who care to come an opportunity for wholesome enjoyment, without interference from the horde of fakers, gamblers, and liquor-sellers who all too frequently infest the conventional "county fair." The creed that gave birth to this celebration was printed on the cover of the picnic programme:

1. You have got to make the country as attractive socially as the city if you want to keep the young folks on the farms.
2. There's a good deal of work in the country, but most of our boys and girls have forgotten how to play.
3. Baseball is a splendid game, but it isn't the only one. Every healthy boy should be interested in at least half a dozen others. Don't merely watch others play games; play them yourself!

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4. You can't drink strong drink and be an athlete. Get your boys interested in honest and healthy sports, and save them from drink and dissipation.

5. Contests and competitions are not the main thing. "The strong compete and grow stronger; the weak look on and grow weaker." The main thing is *play*. Learn the great lesson that play is just as necessary for your sons as work.

6. The community should help to run its own recreations. Its festivals should be, not only *for* the people, but *of* and *by* the people.

Punch and Judy shows, foot races, story-telling, potato races, baseball, trap-shooting, a suffrage pageant, a speech from a United States Senator, a tug-of-war, and an agricultural demonstration by a practical farmer, were among the many attractions which drew visitors from all the neighboring towns. It was a community gathering in the best sense of the word, perhaps one which can be best characterized in an old country phrase as a "play bee." May the Amenia idea spread! There is a place in the life of every township for such a festival. It means a long step towards the ultimate triumph, not of the "back to the land" movement perhaps, but, what is vastly more important, the "stay on the land" movement. It will certainly prove of powerful assistance in the fight to make the country attractive for those who *work* thereon.

Drought Affliction in Western States

Not in the history of this generation has there been so severe an affliction of heat and drought as experienced in the Middle West during the past summer. Some of the richest farming sections of the Southwest, notably Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, and Oklahoma, have seen two practically rainless months, while for weeks the temperature day after day remained near or above the hundred-degree mark. The corn belt has been the greatest sufferer, a decrease of 400,000,000 bushels during July alone in the yield of the United States being estimated by the Government, while almost as much damage resulted in August. Kansas, which raises an average of 150,000,000 bushels annually, will produce less than in its former record short crop year, 1901, when only 41,000,000 bushels were gathered. Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Nebraska, all great corn States, have had immense losses, while for several weeks the phenomenon of wheat bringing less than corn at primary markets has been witnessed. Stock interests have been severely stricken, owing to the drying up of pastures and the lack of water in streams. Unable to feed or water their cattle, hogs, and horses, owners have rushed them to market, flooding the yards with offerings and demoralizing prices. Cattlemen declare that it will require five years to restock the farms of the Middle West in the condition they were last June. The effect of the drought will extend over many months; and it is likely that it will be felt more keenly next spring than now, as the usual supply of salable stock will be lacking. If, as is predicted, the total corn crop of the United States shall be less than in any season for twenty years, the effect in the high cost of meats will be reflected in every household. The immediate suffering, however, is on the farms, where the prosperity of the year is directly affected and plans for the future are disarranged. It is a discouraging thing to see hundreds of acres of grain that promised a rich return shrivel in the sun and waste the labor of an entire season. In Western towns the drought has been felt in the failing water supplies, many communities being compelled to ship their water long distances, owing to the drying up of streams and springs that had never before lacked supply. Trees and lawns have died, and country roads become so thick with dust that travel was a discomfort. Added to the drought was a pest of grasshoppers, hatched out by the extreme heat, devouring every green thing in some counties of Kansas. Their ravages were halted only by an organized campaign of poison-spreading over wide areas.

Optimism in Face of Crop Failure

Despite the serious situation extending through several States, there has been exhibited an optimism entirely characteristic of the West and indicative of the faith possessed by dwellers on the prairies. It would be strange if during a decade of remarkable prosperity the people had not laid aside some savings for a time of stress—and this is exactly what they have done. Governor George H. Hodges, of Kansas, says: "We raised a big wheat crop, a big oats crop, and a big potato crop. Two cuttings of alfalfa were the best ever. And our bank deposits show $42,000,000 more than a year ago. We would not notice the corn shortage were it not for the lack of stock water during a few weeks." When special sessions of Western legislatures for extending aid were

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mentioned, the counties supposed to be needy demurred strongly, asserting that they will get through all right, and that "times will be better in the spring." A note of optimism, based somewhat on hope, but more on the savings of past years and the knowledge of high prices for wheat, alfalfa, and everything else the farmer has to sell, pervades the West and buoys up every industry. The banks have been "cleaning house" for months, in preparation for crop-moving time; they are prepared to care for their customers, and no trace of discouragement is discovered even in the most seriously damaged sections. The truth is that Western farmers have learned how to get the most out of their soil. The Nation's wheat figures this year show the highest average per acre in twenty years —that is, since the large wheat-planting era began—16.2 bushels. This is due to the better methods of tillage. Agricultural college education and special trains giving practical instruction on right systems of planting and cultivation have had their effect. The modern farmer is a business man, and this year's experience with drought has demonstrated that he meets reverses, not in distress, as in earlier days of settlement, but as one of the exigencies of his affairs. The test has been severe, but it has found the people of the interior States so thoroughly equipped in resources and in understanding of possibilities that their prosperity is progressing without a halt.

Georgia Still Has Child Labor

Georgia again has failed to remove the stigma that attaches to her name as the State having the lowest standard of protection for working children in the Union. When the Georgia Child Labor Law was passed seven years ago, it was even then considered nothing to brag about as a piece of social legislation; but while other States have been advancing and legislative standards for the protection of child workers have been raised, Georgia has made little progress. Children of ten still work legally in factories for eleven hours a day in Georgia as they did in 1906, the year the law was passed, although nowhere else in the country is such inhumanity permitted. Not long ago a measure was introduced in the State Senate which, although by no means perfect, promised some improvement. This bill, for which President Anderson of the Senate stood sponsor, raised the age limit for working children to thirteen years for 1914, and provided for a further raise to fourteen years, the legal age in most States, in 1915. It further stipulated that no child should be employed who could not read or write. Apparently the cotton-mill owners, who are said to have been responsible for the defeat of such legislation in the past, were willing to accept the Anderson Bill, but at the eleventh hour they broke faith, if newspaper accounts are true, and brought such pressure to bear that the measure was sidetracked. The lower house of the Georgia Legislature is said to be strongly in favor of drastic reform in factory conditions, but as the session is about to close it is evident that the children will have to wait another year. Dr. A. J. McKelway, Secretary of the National Child Labor Committee in the Southern States, who has seen other Georgia Legislatures fail in their duty as flatly as this one has done, says that such conduct is "an impeachment of our Southern civilization."

Thaw's Escape: What Should be Done

Probably the majority of newspaper readers devoted more of their time last week to reading the story of Thaw's escape and recapture than to the accounts of the Mexican situation, the tariff debate, and the Sulzer impeachment, all together. After the fetid sensationalism of the newspaper accounts of the trial seven years ago, and the repeated and tedious narratives of the attempts to secure Thaw's release, it seemed that nothing new enough and sensational enough to arouse the public's interest in this criminal maniac (as the courts have pronounced him) could occur. But the melodramatic story of the escape, the flight by fast automobile, the crossing of State and Canadian borders, the recognition and arrest of the fugitive—all compelled attention. One cannot blame the reader for finding exciting the innumerable columns devoted to this subject; nor can one be surprised that the average newspaper will furnish what it knows its readers want; but one can blame, and rightly blame, the wrong laws and lax administration of the public service that make such a story possible. No one doubts for a minute that Thaw bribed his way out of Matteawan; how far up the corruption extended is not known; but it was certainly culpable negligence, to say the least, on the part of the responsible officers to allow Thaw

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to wander unguarded in the outer courts in the early morning so that he could slip out of an opened door. Previous attempts at liberty within the institution had been exposed; the new Superintendent was bound to know the danger. Cynics of a too common variety join in a chorus of comment on the impossibility of punishing a rich man, forgetting that on the other side there is at least the credit of holding Thaw a prisoner for seven years, despite wealth and despite lawyers and experts in flocks. One clear lesson of the escape is that a lunatic confined by order of a court in an institution for the "criminally insane" should be as much of a prisoner as if he were in a penitentiary; he should be allowed only such privileges as are entirely consistent with absolute security as to his confinement. In a private asylum special privileges may perhaps safely be accorded which in a place like Matteawan are most reprehensible. A thorough investigation of the status and treatment of the class of prisoners to which Thaw belongs, as well as a drastic inquiry into the circumstances of this escape, should be a matter of course. Another and even more important subject for inquiry is brought out by the statement that Thaw could not be extradited if found in another State than New York because he was acquitted of murder on the ground of insanity, and had since committed no extraditable offense. Evidently there should be State laws allowing and requiring the return on requisition of an escaped person confined as insane, by order of the court and for the safety of the community. We can deport from the country an insane person coming here from abroad; we must be able also to make each State responsible for its own criminal insane. Canada apparently has the right, under its immigration laws, to deport Thaw to the United States whence he came; whether it may and will return him to the State of New York is not decided as we write. Back of all other questions involved is the defect in our law which allows an insane murderer to be pronounced sane later by a court upon a preponderance of paid expert testimony. Either confinement in such a case should be for life, or release should be only after the court or executive has before it a certificate signed by two or more experts in lunacy, who should be salaried officers of the State. Something like this last was suggested two or three years ago by the New York State Bar Association. So long as the law remains as it is, such deplorable and continuing public nuisances as the Thaw case will exist.

A French Statesman of the Second Empire

Émile Ollivier, who died in Paris last week at the age of eighty-eight, was Premier of France when the war with Germany began. His death recalls vividly and like a voice from the past the most critical period of modern French history. Ollivier had the courage, when he was merely a Deputy, to oppose the aggression of Napoleon III against constitutional government, and his efforts in this direction were not without success, largely because he avoided the violence of extreme radicalism. For two or three years before the war with Prussia, Ollivier was a leader in a third party which upheld the idea of an empire of liberal tendencies and measures. The Government under Napoleon recognized his ability and offered him at least one Cabinet position. But he maintained his independence, and in 1869 his views obtained the predominance, and he became really, if not nominally, the head of a Cabinet which came into power with the very beginning of the fateful year of 1870. When the dispute with Bismarck arose, Ollivier was to some extent carried along by the tide of war enthusiasm, and was so ill advised, after he had obtained a war vote of a hundred million dollars, as to use an expression often quoted against him to the effect that he accepted the responsibilities of war "with a light heart." As one French defeat followed another he was driven first out of the Cabinet and then out of the country itself. He always maintained that the general assertion that France was unprepared for war was unfounded so far as regards supplies and the number of available men, and that the real cause of defeat was that Napoleon III insisted upon heading his own armies and on carrying out his own military policy, when he was physically incapable of any sustained effort and had a fatally conceited idea of his own military capacity. Ollivier wrote a history of his ministerial career and of the causes of the war under the title "L'Empire Libéral." Personally, Émile Ollivier was a man of rugged and picturesque character. He was perhaps the last survivor among the French political leaders who were in active life before the terrible struggle with Germany.

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The New Map of the Balkans

The treaty signed between the Balkan Powers on August 10 represents a compromise between the overweening ambitions of Servia, Greece, and Bulgaria. The map printed herewith shows graphically the division of territorial spoils; one notes particularly the prominence of Adrianople (now once more held, temporarily at least, as a Turkish stronghold) at the outskirts of a strip of land which Turkey, in defiance of the Powers, occupied when the second Balkan war was at its height and Bulgaria powerless to prevent. The line now representing the advance of Turkey should be compared with the Enos-Midia line

THE NEW MAP OF THE BALKANS

which was set as Turkey's limit by the Treaty of London. The Powers have denounced this violation of treaty, have threatened to compel Turkey to withdraw, but have not yet taken practical steps to effect that withdrawal. One is inclined to say, in studying this map, that Greece came out of the struggle better than Servia, for the possession of the port of Kavala, in addition to Salonika, strengthens enormously the Greek sea-front, and destroys Servia's hope for a clear road to the ocean and to foreign commerce. On the other hand, Kavala is very largely inhabited by Greeks. Servia's offset to the loss of Kavala is in the granting of commercial rights on the Ægean Sea, while her territorial gain, as will be seen, is considerable, and includes the old Servian capital of Uskub. Montenegro gets a small concession in northern Albania. Bulgaria obtains a large amount of territory, but nothing like as much as she had demanded under the ante-bellum agreement with the other Balkan Powers. Rumania, with practically no war loss at all, gets a considerable concession of territory in what was northern Bulgaria. Thus apparently comes to a conclusion the second of the two devastating Balkan wars. Figures recently given by the correspondent of a newspaper at Rome who had visited all the principal points of the war put the loss of Bulgaria in the two wars as a hundred and forty thousand killed, and its expenditures for the two wars as four hundred and eighty million dollars. Bulgaria's loss in the two wars in men and money is, this correspondent says, larger than those of Servia and Greece combined. No one can at present estimate the loss by disease or the enormous destruction of property. Nor can we form any definite idea as to the number of non-combatants who were killed in the various massacres which are alleged to have taken place. With regard to the atrocities in the Balkans which have been freely charged by the different countries one upon the other, it is announced that the Carnegie Endowment for Interna-

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tional Peace has appointed a commission to conduct an independent and full inquiry into this subject. This is a new development of the international peace movement, and the investigation is the first of its kind that ever took place. The Commission, as announced, includes Professor Samuel Train Dutton, of Columbia University; H. N. Brailsford, of England; Deputy Godard, of France; Paul N. Milukoff, an editor and leader of the Constitutional Democrats in the Russian Duma; Professor Payskowski, of Berlin University; and Professor Redlich, of Vienna University. One of the specified objects of the Carnegie Endowment, as announced at the time of its founding, was to make a scientific study of the cost of war and the effects of war on the territory involved.

The International Congress of Medicine

A pervasive spirit of optimism marked the meetings of the Seventeenth International Congress of Medicine just closed in London. The physicians and surgeons, to the number of seven thousand four hundred, who gathered there to discuss recent progress in the age-long fight against disease, took back to the nations from which they had come a message of assurance for the future welfare of humanity. The health of the world is improving. Although no startling medical discoveries were reported at the conference, the eventual complete triumph of man over two ancient scourges, tuberculosis and venereal disease, was confidently predicted. The focus of attention was Professor Paul Ehrlich, of Frankfort-am-Main, whose discovery of salvarsan has already proved a boon to humanity. Because of Professor Ehrlich's prominence it was perhaps natural that much of the time of the delegates was devoted to the discussion of means of checking the spread of the disease of which he has made a special study. State control of venereal diseases was urged by English physicians, and the Congress adopted a resolution calling on the Governments of the world to establish a system of confidential notification of the proper authorities as well as for a system of diagnosis and treatment of all cases not otherwise provided for. Premier Asquith, while the Congress was in session, announced in the House of Commons that the British Government would soon begin the study of the treatment of venereal disease. The Right Hon. John Burns prophesied the not far distant control of tuberculosis, and hinted that the Government was about to contribute to medical research on a large scale. Major E. R. Rost, of the Indian Medical Service, told of seven cures of leprosy, and Dr. W. L. Braddon, another English physician, urged the abolition of the quarantine against beri-beri, which he said is now known to be non-contagious. The work of Dr. George Crile, of Cleveland, in blood transfusion and the prevention of surgical shock, came in for commendation, with the operation of Dr. F. H. Albee, of New York City, by which a tuberculous spine is repaired with a section of shin-bone. Another American whose work was praised was Dr. Emanuel Libman, of Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City, a specialist in bacterial endocarditis. The convention unanimously indorsed animal vivisection. The establishment of separate departments of national Governments to safeguard public health was urged by Major Sir Ronald Ross, winner in 1902 of the Nobel prize for medicine. At the close of the Congress, after a recapitulation of man's triumphs over the ills to which the flesh is heir, the sobering thought remained that cancer is yet unvanquished, and the savants adjourned with the resolve, unexpressed but heartfelt, to add the cure of cancer to the other triumphs of medicine before the convening of the next Congress at Munich in 1917.

International Memorials

The recent dedication of a monument on the site of the pier from which the Pilgrims embarked from Southampton three hundred years ago is an event which reminds two powerful nations of one of the great influences which they have felt in common, and reaffirms certain fundamental principles for which they both stand to-day. The passionate individualism expressed in the movement which sent the Pilgrims across the sea has been modified by other and equally important elements, but the emphasis on freedom of faith and worship, on purity of life, on the supreme need of the application of righteousness to civil institutions, is part of the enduring inheritance of the American people. Mr. Walter H. Page, the American Ambassador, a North Carolinian by birth, said that the Puritan and the Cavalier still show in the New World some of the differences of temperament and point of view which had divided them in the Old World, and so gave variety and balance

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to life in America, and ended his address with the words: "This monument is one of the pillars of hope of mankind. The sons of those men whose immortal achievement it commemorates are drawn nearer to you by this tribute to their fathers. And they give you their reverent thanks to-day, and this is their message. The old impulse of our destiny which led the race to whatever new forms it may have taken with the changing years is not yet spent. The high, grim spirit of the Pilgrim still lives." The memorial, in the form of a slender column, was erected by funds secured by public subscription on both sides of the Atlantic, and bronze panels representing heroic scenes in the history of the Pilgrims were given by Pilgrim societies and by the descendants of the Pilgrims. Memorials which remind men not only of the heroism of their ancestors but of the common history of humanity have a high educational value. The statue of Washington in Paris and of Lafayette in New York, the tablet on the rock on Mount Desert Island which records its discovery by Champlain, the stately memorial which will preserve the memory of the beautiful celebration of the tercentenary of the discovery of Lake Champlain, the monument to Commodore Perry which stands near the spot where he landed on the shore of Japan, the statues, busts, and other permanent tributes to poets, artists, and heroes of many races which stand in so many American cities, are eloquent witnesses to the common fortunes of humanity, served by noble men and women of all the families of the race.

Shakespeare and Others

So far as the reputation of Shakespeare is concerned, it is a matter of no importance what the theater-going public thinks of his plays in any particular season; but it is always an encouraging sign of the times when those plays are being performed in many places and at short intervals; it means that the flood of cheap and more or less vulgar dramas so widely exploited have not driven real dramas into permanent exile. It is a significant fact, in this connection, that whenever a great actor appears he sooner or later becomes associated with some Shakespearean rôle. It is interesting to note that during the coming season Mr. Faversham is to personate "Romeo," "Othello," and possibly "Hamlet;" that Forbes-Robertson, who for several years past has been submerged, so to speak, in the popularity of "The Third Floor Back," is to give Americans another opportunity to see his impressive "Hamlet;" and that Mr. Mantell, who is steadily growing in art and in reputation, is to play "King John." Mr. Sothern's Shakespearean interpretations show increasing insight and skill, and, with Miss Marlowe's co-operation, have drawn large popular audiences. "Harper's Weekly" announces the production of two plays with Shakespearean associations by Mr. Barrie, which are certain to be sane and enjoyable and are likely to be witty: "The Ladies' Shakespeare, Being One Woman's Version of a Notorious Work," a free handling of "The Taming of the Shrew," to redeem Catherine's reputation from the charge of shrewishness; and "Rosalind," which is described as "an extremely charming one-act play, in which the comfortable and impersonal interests of a wise middle age are delightfully contrasted with the qualities of youth." The lovers of Barrie's bright intelligence and keen wit will take it for granted that Miss Maude Adams, who was born to be his interpreter on the stage, will appear in both plays. Messrs. Shaw, Galsworthy, and Thomas will furnish new plays. This very interesting announcement of pleasures to be anticipated by people to whom the play is neither a pander nor a clown, but a serious work of art, is overshadowed by the news that the life of Poe has been dramatized under the ominous title of "The Raven." A captious critic has called attention to the fact that, in that oft-murdered and much-enduring poem, the "bird of evil" casts its shadow before!

Chicago's Policewomen

Although the newspapers have been disposed to see only the humorous possibilities of the appointment of ten women to the police force in Chicago, the women have apparently gone at their work in a spirit calculated to bring credit to themselves and discomfort to those whose attitude toward this social experiment has been expressed in gibes about "copesses armed with hatpins," and in such puerility as letting rats and mice loose among the female police. The women were appointed by Mayor Harrison on August 5, to hold their positions for sixty days, when to retain them they will be obliged to compete with others in civil service examinations. There were more than sixty applicants for the honor of wearing the silver star of Chicago's police,

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and six married women were among those selected. A committee of three women is in charge of the movements of the amazons, deciding such questions as the assignment of "beats" and the selection of uniforms. This committee is composed of Mrs. Gertrude Howe Britton, of the Juvenile Protective League; Mrs. T. J. Meder, of the Catholic Women's League; and Miss Minnie Loewe, of the Associated Jewish Charities. The uniform adopted temporarily is a blue suit with the silver police star, and a hat with a blue band. Each "blueskirt" is equipped with a police whistle and a patrol-box key, but, for a while at least, no billies or revolvers will be carried by the fair enforcers of the law. The women will devote themselves rather to getting information and to assisting the forlorn than to making arrests, although the performance of that function is not discouraged. Miss Mary Wilson had the honor of making the first arrest when, on the evening of her second day on duty, she "pinched" one of her sex for soliciting. At first it was planned to send the valiant ten into the "red light" district to combat the social evil, but the advisory board decided, wisely we think, to assign the recruits to parks, bathing beaches, excursion steamers, and railway stations, where they are a source of protection to children and to women and girls unacquainted with the city. Other cities may be expected to follow Chicago's example. The work of the police is not confined to making rescues at fires and quelling gunmen, and there is much that could be better done by women than men. We already have women social workers and women probation officers, why not policewomen?

The Lincoln Highway

Of the various projects on a large scale for promoting good roads which have been made public in the last two or three years, the one that interests us most, the one that seems the most possible of accomplishment and to promise the greatest influence upon good roads sentiment throughout the country, is the plan of the Lincoln Highway Association, with headquarters at Detroit, Michigan. The Association, whose officers and directors are men of first-rate executive ability and of high reputation in the business world, proposes to build a continuous improved highway from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It will be open to all lawful traffic, there will be no toll charges of any kind, and, wherever practicable, it will have a concrete surface. The projectors estimate that ten million dollars will insure the success of the plan. Of this large sum more than three million dollars are in hand in the form of private subscriptions. It is the purpose of the Association to build the road by popular subscription, although State roads (and thus the co-operation of States through which the great transcontinental highway will pass) will be made use of wherever possible. There apparently is no endeavor being made to obtain legislative appropriation for the road; but civic bodies of all kinds are urged to inform themselves in regard to this plan and to exert themselves to create popular interest in its favor. When the road is completed, it is proposed to call it "The Lincoln Highway," in memory of Abraham Lincoln. The fact that the automobile and allied industries are actively interested in the plan is no reason why it should not have popular support, and is indeed greatly to the credit of those industries. Motor vehicles are now essential to the comfort and welfare of both city and country dwellers. Their use and their necessity will enormously develop in the future. Their most economical and efficient service can be rendered only where there are good roads. This is quite as true of horse-drawn vehicles, although horse, carriage, and wagon owners have seldom realized it and have done little in the direction of good road-building. The automobile and accessory trades are serving not only themselves but the entire community in promoting good roads. They deserve to receive appreciation and support. It is not too severe language to say that the highways and country roads of the United States are a disgrace both to American intelligence and American ability, and in this respect New York City, with its contiguous territory, is one of the worst offenders—so bad, indeed, that it scarcely deserves to be the Atlantic terminus of the Lincoln Highway.

Russian Versus American Education

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, American educators may well be gratified by the recent visit of a party of sixty-eight Russian men and women to this country for the purpose of studying American educational methods and carrying back our best ideas to urge their adoption upon the

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Russian Government. The party, which traveled under the auspices of the Moscow Society for the Promotion of Technical Knowledge, was composed of teachers in Russian private schools and in the Government gymnasiums, which are in many ways similar to our high schools. The Russians were the guests of local Chambers of Commerce at most of the large cities in the East and Middle West, including New York, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, Rochester, and Buffalo. A side trip was taken to Freeville, New York, where the foreigners found much to interest them in the George Junior Republic. The vacation schools in New York also came in for much favorable comment from the Slavs, and, in fact, the public school system of every city visited seemed to win the approval of the party of inspection. The Russians did not confine themselves to taking information away with them, however, but left some valuable suggestions with us. Apropos of the recent agitation in New York over the question of allowing teachers to become mothers, Mme. Rosanoff, a teacher of Russian literature in the Government gymnasium at Moscow, observed that in her country teachers are encouraged to bear children and are given leaves of absence of from two to four months, and if necessary for longer periods, on full pay, in order that they may bring children into the world. In Russia, said Mme. Rosanoff, women receive equal pay with men except in some of the lower grades, and, like the men, receive a pension after twenty-five years of service. English is being taught more and more in the schools of the great Slav monarchy, it was said, owing to the growth of trade relations with England and the United States. One of the visiting teachers, Miss Lydia Yanovsky, wrote her "Impressions of America," in which she said: "When in New York we climbed to the top of a wonderfully high house, the Woolworth Building, and it seemed to me as if I were reading a Utopian novel which tells of things to come many, many years from now. But in America this Utopia is reality. Our future is your present. . . . The tireless creative genius of your country goes constantly forward. . . . That is the reason why you have democratized public education and have raised it to such an enviable height. America establishes for children special classes, as we have been shown in Trenton and New York, where the teachers try to learn of the children's individualities and tastes in order to direct each child into the stream which is easiest for him or her to navigate. Such system reduces to a minimum the percentage of useless and good-for-nothing citizens. Such system is wise and humane, and has already been adopted in some of the larger cities of Russia."

WHAT ABOUT MEXICO?

This country has two kinds of interest in Mexico. One—the most talked of just now—is the safety of American citizens in Mexico and the protection of their business investments. The other, less immediate in its appeal but really more fundamental, is that Mexico shall become a self-respecting, self-governing republic. When the United States intervened between Cuba and Spain, and again between the Cuban factions which were making of Cuba a political chaos, when it assumed control of the Philippines, when it straightened out Santo Domingo's affairs, the prime object was to benefit the peoples of those lands. European diplomatists smiled skeptically at first, but history has convinced the world of our sincerity. Americans believe in representative government; they believe that countries in a backward condition can be helped and educated by degrees away from absolutism; they believe also that the United States, because of its Monroe Doctrine and its own democracy, has a special duty as regards the less advanced republics to the southward. Our own interests are concerned, and we have a right to protect them; but beyond this is our faith in the advance of civilization through the principles of democratic government.

If we apply this to Mexico, it is clear that what we should strive for is something more than temporary peace. Not unnaturally, that is what commercial interests prompt Americans in Mexico to put to the front. These interests would recognize the Huerta Government, good or bad, because thereby revolution might die away; when Madero was President, the moneyed interests felt the same way; when Porfirio Diaz was in power, they deprecated political opposition, because investments were safe. But absolutism is never permanent. The worst feature of Mexico's recent history is that politically it has never gone forward; practically there is no middle class, no real choice of representatives, no political education.

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Looking to the future in a large way, what is needed in Mexico is not the substitution of one despotic ruler, with a subservient Congress and army behind him, for another; peace at such a price has no germ of hope in it. What is needed is the union of patriotic and fair-minded Mexican citizens in securing a Congress and Ministry which dare take up in earnest such questions as land monopoly and the abuses of peonage, which will act not under but with a President, and which may establish such a system of elections as will foster and not repress independence. In any such effort the United States ought to help with sympathy and encouragement; but to throw its influence either toward Huerta or to any of the half-dozen or more anti-Huerta generals in the field would be futile. There is no reason to suppose that absolutism under Carranza, for instance, would be much better than absolutism under Huerta, nor that the other revolutionists, who care no more for Carranza than for Huerta, would then cease from their activity.

President Wilson, in his attempt to solve the Mexican problem, has stood firmly against intervention and equally firmly against the recognition of Huerta. He believes that the sentiment of the American people is not yet aroused to the need of such a long-continued, semi-guerrilla warfare as might follow intervention; while he holds that precedent (as in the case of the accession of Porfirio Diaz) justifies his refusal to recognize a Government founded on violence and tainted with accusations of assassination, until the people of Mexico have at the polls themselves indorsed that Government. Therefore he has attempted friendly mediation. Probably before this is read a special Message to Congress will give the details of his proposal and of the Mexican Government's refusal to adopt his suggestions and counter-request for recognition.

This much at least was gained last week, that, contrary to previous declarations, the President's personal representative was received directly by President Huerta and the proposals of President Wilson were considered and answered. Mediation as between Huerta and his enemies seems hopeless; a proposal that hostilities should cease and a fair election be held, under such circumstances as to secure a free expression of the people's wishes, sounds well but would be difficult of execution.

There remains for us, it would seem, for the present, only a policy of inaction while Mexico struggles with her own problems, but with the full understanding that the United States will not indefinitely allow anarchy to rule in Mexico. Such startling and inflammatory utterances as those of Senator Penrose, made in advocating his resolution to provide $25,000,000 for protecting American life and property in Mexico, are out of place. The feeling of the country was more truly represented by the replies of several Republican Senators who declared that, regardless of party, Congress should give the President loyal support and refrain from embarrassing him in his patriotic efforts to secure law and order in Mexico.

Some day Mexico will become a republic in fact as well as in name; we of the United States stand ready to help; it is for the sane statesmen of Mexico so to shape her development that our help shall be through sympathy and forbearance; but if need be we have the right and even the duty to use compulsion in the interest of civilization on this continent.

THE NEW WOMEN OF JAPAN

Much is being said nowadays about the progress and achievements of the men of Japan. Unfortunately, however, little is known in this country about the equally wonderful progress of Japanese women. That progress is typified by the story of Miss Ume Tsuda, whose name is known already to many Americans, especially in the East.

Coming to America when she was seven years old as one of five little girls sent by the Japanese Government to receive foreign education—the first to leave their country—she spent ten years in Washington. During those years she acquired a knowledge of English and an accuracy and precision of speech that put most Americans to shame. The writer well remembers the start of surprise with which strangers who heard her voice and turned to see the speaker found a foreigner using this exquisite English. At the end of her ten years she returned to Japan, and was almost immediately taken into the household of Prince Ito as secretary and interpreter to his wife. On her inexperienced shoulders fell all the burden of helping Princess Ito entertain the ladies of the diplomatic circle—a difficult task for a shy

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young girl of seventeen who had so far lived the quietest of home lives. That she filled the part satisfactorily, however, is shown by the fact that Prince Ito remained her lifelong friend and well-wisher.

But her services were soon more needed elsewhere. When the Empress opened the Peeresses' School, in 1886, Miss Tsuda was, as a matter of course, made teacher of English—a post which she held until 1900. Her work in the school was, however, twice interrupted. In 1889, because she felt that to be able to teach as she wished to teach she must herself have further training, she asked and obtained a three years' leave of absence, and returned to America to study in Bryn Mawr College. Here she soon made a name for herself as a student in English and history, but especially in science. A true scientific investigator has been lost to the world by Miss Tsuda's absorption in the education of her countrywomen. Even during these early years at Bryn Mawr she manifested this interest by raising through her own efforts a competitive scholarship for Japanese girls to study in America, which has been worthily filled by a succession of students at Bryn Mawr.

On her return to Japan Miss Tsuda took up her teaching again, the routine being broken once more in 1898 by another visit to America as delegate to the Federation of Women's Clubs, at which time she was also sent to England for some months, at the invitation of some English women interested in education, to study educational methods at Oxford and elsewhere.

During these years of teaching she was quietly and unobtrusively but very steadily making herself a unique place in Japanese society. She never tried to run counter to prejudice or make herself conspicuous as an avowed progressive, but successfully served her long apprenticeship in the Peeresses' School, the most conservative school in Japan, studying at close range the problems of her countrywomen and laying her plans how best to serve them. In 1900 she resigned her position, though she had no money but what she earned, and opened a school of collegiate grade for English. The Governmental educational system offers to women no more advanced English courses than the elementary work of the high schools, and does not undertake to prepare its own English teachers. She was enabled to make a beginning through the aid of American friends who believed in her purpose and her power to carry it out.

That the school was needed has been fully demonstrated by its history. In 1900 it consisted of fifteen pupils in Miss Tsuda's own house, the teaching being done by Miss Tsuda with the assistance of an American friend, Miss Alice Bacon, who gave her service, and with a little aid from Japanese friends, also voluntary. Now, twelve years later, there are one hundred and fifty students, sixty of them living in the two dormitories, which, with the school proper and the small houses for the resident teachers, stand with their gardens on the grounds belonging to the school in the very heart of Tokyo. The plant is largely the gift of American friends who have formed committees in Philadelphia and New York, although the alumnæ have done their utmost in raising funds to help purchase the ground. The dormitories are now self-supporting. The teachers number twenty; both American and Japanese. The salaries of two teachers are given outright; those of the others are paid partly by tuition fees, partly by outside gifts, as all school fees in Japan are extremely small. The school has now reached its utmost capacity under present conditions. The students, who come from all parts of Japan, must be graduates of other schools—mission schools or Government high schools—and enter by examination. The course of study includes Chinese and Japanese literature, history, psychology, and ethics, but the chief stress is laid on English, in which a four years' course is given, including speaking, writing, and the study of English literature. The Government's judgment of the work is shown by the fact that the graduating classes are given the Government license to teach in Government schools without examination, the license having this year been extended to cover English teaching in the middle schools for boys as well as girls, a privilege which had never been granted to women. A large proportion of the graduates become teachers, at least for a time. Eighty-three out of 143 graduates are at present filling school positions all over Japan and even in Korea.

These are the externals which any one may see or read in Government reports. What is less easy to define, but is none the less real and the heart of the whole, is the spirit of the school. Others might get the numbers, might have the knowledge to bestow and the ability to teach, but Miss Tsuda

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has had peculiar opportunities to know both East and West. A woman of brilliant intellect and clear perception, she is a real woman of the world, and because of this and because of her ardent patriotism and Christian faith she can understand, as few of her nation and no outsider ever could, the needs of Japanese women in this present critical period of changing conditions and changing views. Japan is flooded with Western ideas, bad as well as good. Her women are forced by new economic conditions into new fields of action, and as a natural result they demand the freedom of the Western woman.

But, unlike her Western sister, the Japanese woman has no conventions of the newer life to safeguard her, no slowly acquired knowledge of the world to guide her. She does not gain even in Government schools the broad education necessary to train her for the new conditions. Miss Tsuda, therefore, feels that only through a thorough training in Western literature and Christian thought can the knowledge of what this new freedom means and the power to use it rightly be attained. She opens to her girls the best of Western culture, shows them the ideals of Western womanhood, makes them at the same time hold fast to the old standard of their own country, to the old ideals of politeness and service and self-forgetfulness, and sends them out at once advanced and conservative. So, without calling her school a college, without calling it even a Christian school, she sends yearly to homes of their own or to public places of influence from twenty to twenty-five college-bred women in sympathy with the principles of Christianity and ready in mind and soul to take their part in shaping the "new woman" of Japan.

"THERE ARE NO DEAD"

We have done much to Christianize our farewells to those who have gone before us into the next stage of life. We no longer darken the rooms that now more than ever need the light and warmth of the sun; we no longer close the windows as if to shut out Nature at the moment when we are about to give back to Mother Earth all that was mortal in the earthly career now finished; we no longer shroud the house in black, we make it sweet with flowers, for the hymns of grief we are fast substituting the hymns of victory; for words charged with a sense of loss we listen to words that hold wide the door of hope and faith: and on the memorials which we place where they lie-who have vanished from our sight we no longer carve the skull and cross-bones, the hour-glass and the scythe—we recall some trait or quality or achievement that survives the body and commemorates the spirit.

We have done much to Christianize our treatment of what we call death, to emphasize our faith in the immortal life; but we do not take to ourselves the immense helpfulness, the radiancy of joy, in the sublime truth which Christ brought to light. There is still too much of the shadowy vagueness of the early pagan thought of the future; and many are missing not only an hourly comfort, but a deep peace of spirit and a glorious expectation.

We confuse ourselves by the forms of speech we use when we talk of this life and of the future life as if they were two lives, of our mortal life as if it were different in kind from the immortal life. There is only one life, and that life is immortal, here and now. The life of the body is not our life any more than we are the houses we live in. The house may be destroyed, or may decay, but we are not imprisoned in it, and its fate is not our fate. We can go out of it when we choose and make ourselves another house. Our bodies are the servants of our spirits; after a time they may cease to obey us, but because the eyes refuse to see, the sense of vision is not impaired; because the feet refuse to walk, the mind does not cease to travel. When an injury befalls us, we do not say, "I am broken;" we say, "My arm is broken." In speech and in action we habitually dissociate ourselves from our bodies and affirm our superiority to them. Shattered, broken, tortured with pain, we remained undismayed and unsubdued. Ney, who was called the lion of the French army, was of highly sensitive physical organization. On one occasion, when he was directing a battle from an eminence under heavy fire, he noticed that his aides were smiling. Looking down, he saw that his knees were rattling against his saddle. "You poor knees," he said, "how you would rattle if you knew where I am going to take you in a minute!"

The bravest men are not those who are insensible to physical fear, but those who master it by courage of spirit; the purest and noblest are not those who have never felt the temptations of the body but those who have resisted them. There is no body

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in the sense of something fixed and complete apart from the spirit; the body, like the earth to which it returns, is never the same two days in succession. It is always changing, and the man of seventy-five has already lived in seven or eight bodies. It is literally true that we "die daily" in the only sense in which we ever die; that is to say, we change; which is what death really means.

When the boy in "The Blue Bird" goes with fear and trembling into the burying-ground, he finds it a sunny meadow, and cries out to his frightened sister, "There are no dead!" The question is sometimes asked, "Does death end all?" Death ends nothing; it is simply a change. There are no dead in the sense in which the phrase is commonly used; there are only the living in the vast mystery of life which enfolds us all, on the fathomless stream of life which bears us all forward. We are here for a little time, as we are often in inns where we make friends who are dear to us, and then we leave them and go on to another stage in our journey; we miss them and they miss us, and neither their places nor ours are ever taken by others. But we see new landscapes and pass through new experiences into a larger world, and they presently follow us. We are separated and are often lonely, but we look forward joyfully to new sights and sounds, and to the hour when, further on in the journey, we shall look into their eyes and hear their voices.

To think of life as one and indivisible, of immortality as our possession, here and now, of death as normal change in an eternal process of growth, of those whom we call dead as more intensely alive than when we saw them, is to transform the experience which has overshadowed the world for centuries as the end of happiness into a larger freedom and joy, and to make immortality not a vague expectation but a glorious opening of the doors and windows of the house of life. "While we poor wayfarers still toil, with hot and bleeding feet, along the highway and the dust of life," writes Dr. Martineau, "our companions have but mounted the divergent path, to explore the more sacred streams, and visit the divine vales, and wander amid the everlasting Alps of God's upper provinces of creation. And so we keep up the courage of our hearts, and refresh ourselves with the memories of love, and travel forward in the ways of duty, with less weary step, feeling ever for the hand of God, and listening for the domestic voices of the immortals whose happy welcome awaits us. Death, in short, under the Christian aspect, is but God's method of colonization; the transition from this mother country of our race to the fairer and newer world of our emigration."

SUMMER VESPER SERMONS

THE ETERNAL COMFORTER

BY LYMAN ABBOTT

"Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and stablish them in every good word and work."—2 Thessalonians ii. 16, 17.

A PESTILENCE hovers over a great city with its dark wings, and every night the husband goes to his cottage home wondering whether he may not find that the fatal destroyer has entered there, and the wife whom he left in health in the morning he may find stricken at night. One evening he comes, and the house is closed, and the windows are dark, and he knocks and there is no answer, and he rings and he gets no response, and his heart sinks within him as he thinks that she is stricken and gone. But, as he looks and watches, suddenly he discerns on the door, in the darkening twilight, a little paper pinned, and he plucks it off, and opens it, and reads it, and it brings him a message from his wife—"My father has come for me, and has taken me up into the mountains, where there is no malaria, no disease, no danger; I am safe there, and in a few days he is coming for you to follow me."

So we come to the house that held our beloved. It is dark, and out of the windows that shone with the light of love no light is shining. We are heartbroken; until we turn and find here the word brought to us—

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"That the loved one has gone to the mountains, where there is no pain, nor sorrow, nor temptation, nor disease, but the eternal flowers and the everlasting sunlight." It is not strange that in the heart of man, where before there was only anguish, and to the lips of men, where before there was only the long wail of sorrow, this message of the everlasting Christ has brought exhilaration and the song of triumph. It is not strange that we have learned to hang upon our doors no crape, but flowers.

But the mystery and the fragmentariness of life are not so hard to bear as the injustice of it. The best men suffer most, and the worst suffer least. From very ancient times men have looked thus at life, and felt the cruelty and seeming wickedness of it. So they have thought of life, made up of conflicting forces and ruled by chance, in which might makes right, and the strongest is the best, and there is a survival of the fittest; or ruled by cruel wrath and hate and jealousy, furies that pursue men, because the gods are jealous of their prosperity; or by cruel, remorseless, unsympathetic law—life, at all events, a chaos over which there broods no spirit of God bringing forth light, but only a spirit of night bringing forth darkness; a chaos with no voice above saying, "Let there be light." And he who has shed on the mystery of life the light of trust, and on the fragmentariness of life the light of hope, sheds on this awful unfaith in God, this awful sense of injustice and wrong against which we protest in vain endeavor, the light of love; for this is Christ's declaration everywhere and always: the devil is not the god of this world, nor humanity the god of this world, nor fury, nor a god of fury; but infinite and eternal love is working out the web of human destiny.

Have you ever been in one of the great weaving factories, and seen the curious fingers pick up the threads one after the other as they are wanted? You see iron and steel working mechanically only, yet working out the plan which wisdom and skill devised for them beforehand. Life is a great factory, and the forces that we call forces of nature are these busy fingers; but they are doing the work that wisdom and love ordained beforehand, and are working out a pattern that by and by will be completed in the eternal world. I thank God for John Calvin. I thank God for the doctrine that he has so wrought into human faith that it can never be taken out. I take what John Calvin taught—God is the absolute sovereign of the human race; and I take what Henry Ward Beecher taught—God is absolute love; and I put those two together, as I find them joined together in eternal wedlock in my Bible, with this result: Love is the absolute sovereign of the human race. And I thank God for the conjoint and combined testimony of these two prophets of his Church. Read Paul's doctrine of foreordination: "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate." Then the Church stops. Paul was writing to a people in whom the doctrine of foreordination had been wrought by centuries of teaching. He was not writing to teach men that God foreknew and foreordained. He was writing to a Jewish people who believed that God had predestinated from eternity—only, that God had predestinated the Jews for heaven and the Gentiles for hell. And what Paul says is this: "Whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be conformed to the image of his Son*, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. . . . What shall we then say? . . . If God be for us, who can be against us?"

Beside my home they are building an apartment-house; there are piles of brick, and of stone, and of sand, and gatherings of cement and great timbers; the street is full of dust and noise and confusion; but the architect who has gathered them there knows what he is going to make out of them; he knows where the bricks are going, and where the stone, and where the sand and the cement; and when the work is done according to the architect's foreknowledge and predestination, we shall have a very different aspect in our street. So I look out on life full of confusion, but in the faith that there is an architect at work who knows what he is about, though I do not. What it will be I do not know; but I know this—that somewhere in that structure I shall be a grain of sand; and that is enough. I will help in some way to hold together that great temple of God in which God will dwell; for he that filled the body of Christ while Christ walked on the earth will yet fill the Church, which is the kingdom of Christ, with his own spirit.

Take me, then, O God, for I am but humble clay; take me and knead me and mold me and shape me and pattern me—aye, and put me in the furnace and burn me, so that I may come out in thy image and fulfill the sovereignty of thy love.

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THE OUTS IN

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE FROM WASHINGTON

YOU call up the office of the Hon. Mr. So-and-So of the House Committee on Such-and-Such, and a pleasant voice from the other end of the telephone wire informs you that Mr. So-and-So is out—attending caucus. That word "out" betrays the speaker. Who else says "out" like a Southerner? Then you call up the office of the Hon. Mr. What's-His-Name, Chairman of the Senate Committee on This-and-That, and another pleasant voice with a kindly intonation of regret again says "out," in just the same way. So when the Private Secretary to the Secretary of the Blank Department answers your call, it is the same. Of course in every Administration everybody in Washington is usually out. But this is being out in a new way. Then you take a trolley car, and as you start to alight the motorman says: "Don't yo' know yo' can't get *out* at this co'ner?" and you exclaim to yourself, "Are the Outs in all over the city?"

DEMOCRATIC HARMONY

Yes, it is certainly true that the Democrats are in. A Congressman told me that no one really knows how the guides at the Capitol are appointed. One can be here twenty years and never find out. Since March 4, however, the old faces have disappeared and new faces have appeared above the guides' badges. It is a new régime. It is a long time since the Democrats have controlled the policies of the Federal Government, and a very much longer time since the South was politically dominant in the Nation. That those now in power enjoy being in power is undeniable. They like the sensation of it. There is something pleasantly novel about the feeling a Democrat now has that his party's bill is going to pass both houses and be signed by the President. Under the power of that novel feeling old differences and even present disagreements are well hidden. When differences do appear within the party fold, they only serve to accentuate the general agreement. The traditional inclination of the Democratic party for internal conflicts and individual independence seems to have been expelled. Never did any party have the appearance at least of holding together more firmly than the Democratic party in Washington is doing at present.

THE SUGAR DISCUSSION

This was very evident in the debate and vote on the sugar schedule of the Tariff Bill while the Senate was in Committee of the Whole. This is the schedule in the Democratic tariff bill which has been subjected to the fiercest attack. It provides that the rates on sugar shall be gradually reduced so that sugar will come in free in 1916—two years from next spring.

In defense of this arrangement it is said that sugar is one of the most common and necessary articles of food, and as such it should be freed from taxation. A low price for sugar is in the interest not of any class or section of the people but of all the people. It is, therefore, for the relief of the people—for everybody uses sugar—that the tariff on sugar should be entirely removed. It would be removed at once, say the defenders of the bill, if it were not for the promise of the Democratic party not to disturb business. So, in order to allow the growers of sugar cane and sugar beets to adjust themselves to the new conditions, the tariff is to be removed not at once but gradually. But there can be no compromise about the plan to have it eventually removed altogether.

In reply, objections to free sugar are raised not only on behalf of those who produce sugar, but also on behalf of those who buy it and use it. On behalf of the sugar producer it is urged most earnestly that free trade in sugar would destroy the cane sugar industry and the beet sugar industry in continental United States, and seriously injure if not destroy the sugar industry of Hawaii and the Philippines. To do this would be to strike a blow at the prosperity of whole sections of the United States and its dependencies. It is inconceivable, the argument runs, that the Democratic party can contemplate any such thing. The Democratic leaders are reminded of the promise of the party that it would not pass any tariff measure that would injure any legitimate business. To the intimation that the sugar-growing industry is not a legitimate business if it is dependent on a

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protective tariff, the reply is made that that is an argument which is not applied to any other industry. It is asserted that sugar is now one of the cheapest articles of food, that even under excessive protective duties the price of sugar has declined, and that, therefore, there is no reason in the public interest why the great and extensive industry of producing sugar should be stricken down. Moreover, it is argued that free sugar would be an injury not only to the sugar producer but also to the sugar consumer. Free sugar would tend to raise, not lower, the price of sugar. The only people who would profit would be those who are interested in the Sugar Trust. The Sugar Trust, which is engaged in the refining of sugar, wants to get its raw sugar cheap and control the supply of raw sugar. If it can do so, it can make bigger profits. Now the world consumes each year all the sugar that is annually produced. When the removal of the tariff on sugar drives the American sugar growers out of business, the Trust will not only get its raw sugar cheaper from the tropics, where it can be grown cheaply by the aid of cheap labor, but will also be in a position to control the more limited supply. Then, with the supply more limited, and the demand growing with the growth of population, the Sugar Trust can with impunity put the price of sugar up. This is the Trust that was convicted of gross frauds in New York, and it is this Trust that will be the only beneficiary of free trade in sugar. The only result to the consumer will be that while temporarily the price of sugar may go down, very soon thereafter the price of sugar will rise and will help to increase the cost of living.

These are the arguments that have been iterated and reiterated, and that have—it is an open secret—convinced a not inconsiderable number of Democratic Senators. These are the arguments which Mr. Smoot, Republican Senator from Utah, included in his speech before the Senate in Committee of the Whole. Even those who most thoroughly distrust Senator Smoot and most strongly dislike his general attitude toward political questions could not question the earnestness and sincerity of this speech. It was an unusual sight. There were not only the old stand-pat Senators on the Republican side, but also such Senators as Bristow and Norris, representing the group of so-called Progressive-Republicans (the Insurgent or Progressive group of 1909, 1910, and 1911), the antithesis of the stand-pat element, listening with evident approval while Mr. Smoot pounded his desk, clapped his hands in the earnestness of gesture, and raised his voice in urgent emphasis, as he addressed—a handful of Democratic Senators scattered among empty desks.

The Democratic Senators for the most part did not take the trouble even to listen to the arguments, much less to try to answer them. They knew how they were going to vote. Whether they were going to vote according to their beliefs or not, they were going to vote *together*.

LOUISIANA'S PROTEST

There were two exceptions—the Senators from Louisiana. There they sat, Thornton and Ransdell, side by side in the back row on the Democratic side near the aisle. They alone, of the Democratic Senators, were going to vote against free sugar; they alone, in this vote, were to break away from their party.

After Senator Smoot had finished his speech, Senator Ransdell arose. In appearance he is the efficient business man, and his manner of speaking was that of one who had no oratory in which to indulge, but had important information to give on an important matter of business. His speech consisted of few words of his own, but mainly of the reading of a resolution adopted by a mass-meeting held in Louisiana and editorial articles from the leading daily papers of New Orleans. The resolution was not of the formal sort, but was really an address to the Senate. It protested against the threatened injury to the important cane sugar industry of a State which had loyally supported the National Democratic party during long periods of defeat as well as in this its time of victory; it protested also against the secret caucus by which the Democratic members of the Senate adopted party policies and party measures without allowing the people, to whom they were subject, to know what motives guided them and what reasons influenced their action: it intimated that there was a point beyond which party loyalty could not be strained; and it commended the action of the Senators from Louisiana in refusing to be bound by the secret caucus and in breaking away from other Democratic Senators on this matter. Senator Ransdell made it known that on account of this policy of free sugar

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there was not a good state of feeling in Louisiana toward the National Democracy.

UNAFRAID OF SECESSION

Did Senator Ransdell's speech, supported as it was by his colleague, Senator Thornton, have any effect on the Democratic membership of the Senate? None that was visible. The Democratic Senators, for the most part, made no more effort to listen to the Democrat from Louisiana than they did to the Republican from Utah. Most of the chairs on the Democratic side were empty. The Democratic Senators not from Louisiana knew that, anyway, they were going to vote *together*.

Until last year any suggestion that Louisiana might secede from the Democratic party would have been scouted. There was nowhere to go but with the Republican party, and that was unthinkable. But now there is the Progressive party, non-sectional like the Democratic party, also like the Democratic party devoted to the principle of popular self-government, but at the same time pledged to business and economic policies with relation to the tariff that are not without their appeal to such a State as Louisiana. Suggestions that the party loyalty of Louisiana Democrats may be strained do not sound so absurd now as they might have sounded a little while ago. Nevertheless the Democratic Senators, aware that without the Senators from Louisiana they had but a majority of one, held together. There was no wavering. The vote on free sugar showed a majority of five; but that was because some Republican Senators were absent unpaired. If all had been present and voting, there would have been a majority of one. The margin was not as wide as a church door, but it sufficed. In spite of the recalcitrance of the Louisiana Senators, the party in the Senate was holding fast. And if it could hold fast on that, it seemed as if it could hold fast on anything. It is true that this schedule is to come up for a vote once more, but there is little ground for expecting then any other result.

DEMOCRATIC UNION IN THE HOUSE

If the Democrats in the Senate are holding together—even if a bit desperately—what shall we say of the Democrats in the House? There, it might be said, the Democrats are keeping together confidently, if not jauntily. They are so well under control that the leaders are not a bit disturbed by even radical differences of opinion. To speak of those who are directing the affairs of the party in the House as leaders is a euphemism. They are managers rather; and they are managing.

When the revolt against the oligarchy that was headed by the Republican Speaker, Cannon, forced a change in the rules of the House three years ago, the Speaker's power was broken. No longer was it possible for a few men to exercise the power this oligarchy had wielded over the proceedings of the House. That does not mean, however, that there is no such power wielded now. Instead, the power that once belonged to the Speaker has been transferred to the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, and in place of being exercised in the proceedings of the House it is exercised in the action of the party caucus. Perhaps the power is of a somewhat different kind, as it is certainly exercised in a very different way and by a different kind of man. Speaker Cannon was an unpolished, forceful man, and in the latter part of his term of office became arbitrary and dictatorial. Oscar Underwood, the Democratic Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, is a courteous and affable Southern gentleman, ready to listen to reason, prompt in seeing a point. But never in all his days did Joseph G. Cannon have any more thorough control of the party machinery in the House of Representatives than has Oscar W. Underwood, of Alabama. And beneath his velveted iron hand there is no public sign of restiveness.

Having passed the Tariff Bill over to the mercy of the Senate, Mr. Underwood, with the assistance of the Democratic members of the House, is proceeding to put the Currency Bill on its way to passage. Each day the House of Representatives meets for a while. During that hour or so the Republican minority and the nineteen Progressives are suffered in the hall. During that time Mr. Clark, the Speaker, in his crash suit, or is it linen?—whichever it is it looks very well on him—sits aloft in the Speaker's chair, hits the table in front of him with his gavel, and shouts with a sort of impulsive restraint: "Is—there—objection?" and Mr. Underwood sits inconspicuously on a front bench, and Mr. Mann, the gray-bearded Republican leader, sits on the edge of one of the desks in the single row and declares that he for his part does object. Then a bell rings, Republicans, Progressives, newspaper correspondents, and the rather uninterested representatives of the public in the gallery go

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out, and the Chamber of the House of Representatives is left for the sole occupancy of the real legislators—the Outs that now are in—the members of the majority—the Democrats.

What goes on in that hall while the Democrats are legislating nobody but the Democrats is supposed to know; for this is a secret caucus. There are no official stenographic records of the speeches or the debates. All that is positively known is that a bill comes out of that caucus, and it is morally certain that very much as it comes out of that caucus so it will come out of the House.

CURRENCY WAVES AND THE DEMOCRATIC CLIFF

It is this secret caucus of the Democratic majority that is now, as I write, passing the Currency Bill. It is known as the Glass-Owen Currency Bill because it has been in charge of the two Committees of Congress on Banking and Currency, the chairmen of which are Representative Glass and Senator Owen respectively.

Mr. Glass, an editor from Virginia, has become Chairman of his Committee by virtue of service on the Committee, and through the course of that service has come to his present knowledge of the subject. Men who know him and have worked with him on this bill testify strongly not only to his disinterestedness and his single devotion to the public interest, but also to his grasp of the problems involved in banking and currency legislation. This knowledge is different in kind from a knowledge of the banking business. A man may know how to conduct a bank, but he may have no knowledge as to what effect new provisions of law might have on the business or on the public interest; and he certainly will not unless he has made a special study of the subject. That Mr. Glass gave evidence of his knowledge of the subject in a very recent speech in caucus in defense of the bill is openly declared in Washington. Some of the members of the majority have felt that the bill was not radical enough, that it favored private control of the money of the country, and that it did not sufficiently check the use of money for speculation in securities. So, it is reported, amendments were offered in caucus. It is these amendments which Mr. Glass's speech is said to have demolished. Mr. Glass is a man of modest appearance and modest demeanor; but, according to his enthusiastic supporters, whose praise he finds somewhat embarrassing, there was nothing retiring or apologetic in the fashion with which he fell upon the critics of the bill and the would-be improvers of it. And these Democrats rather welcomed the criticisms and suggestions coming from within their own party, because they afforded a chance to prove that against such attack the party support which the bill enjoyed was not to be shaken. That is why I say that the Democrats are standing together in the House a bit jauntily. They find a little thrill in seeing the spray dash against the cliffs. It looks threatening and really does not do the cliffs any harm.

WHY IS IT?

What is the secret of this new trait of cohesiveness in the Democratic party? Part of the secret lies in the fact that the Democrats enjoy the sense of being in power, and what they are enjoying they naturally want to keep. Once upon a time the Democrats used to find very consoling the thought that no government could be good government except under the eye of a critical opposition. Here was a great ideal of public service. It was free from the alloy of greed for place and lust for office. The high duty of the Democratic party was to lay a restraining hand upon the power-loving Republicans and save the country from the disaster that would befall it if the party in power were not checked. One hears nothing of that from the Democrats now. Meditation upon the high rôle of opposition is left to others now. All thought is turned toward the question, Now that the country has put us in, will it keep us in? The first flush of enjoyment of just being in has passed or is passing; and already there is discernible a flavor of anxiety. What is the country thinking of us? What does it think of the Wilson Administration? Do the people like us? Do they think we improve on acquaintance? That feeling is a powerful cohesive force of itself.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE PRESIDENT

That, however, is only part of the secret. The other part, or at least one other equally considerable part, is the man in the White House.

There is no doubt that the Democrats are proud of their President. They are proud of the man, of his culture, his experience, his ability, his executive traits, and they are

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proud that he is a Democrat. It was only a very short time ago that Democrats were pointing with alarm to the danger of one-man power, the increasing power of the Executive, the undue influence that the White House was exerting in the Capitol, the interference of the President in the prerogatives of legislators. One hears nothing of that now. If any Democrats are thinking it, they are not saying it. On the contrary, they seem to take satisfaction in the fact that it is President Wilson, their President, a Democratic President, who is keeping the legislative forces together. Free sugar? That is a part of President Wilson's plan. Is not that sufficient answer? Currency legislation? When shall we get currency legislation unless now with President Wilson in the White House? Is there any question as to the motives of those who are standing, even against their own judgment, for free sugar as well as free wool? No other reply is needed than that President Wilson has decided on that policy. Is there any question as to the origin of the Currency Bill? All suspicion is defied by the statement that it was drafted under the eye of President Wilson.

PATRIOTISM AND PARTISANSHIP

And whatever is accomplished must be done in such a way as to redound to the honor of the Democratic party and the Democratic President. In matters of great public policy there is no response here to the idea of non-partisanship. This does not mean that in matters of administrative efficiency partisan considerations control. Not at all. On the contrary, some of the best work being done in the Departments in Washington is being done by men who are not Democrats, and it is by some of these very men that the greatest gratification is expressed at the improvement in spirit and tone that has been apparent in many of the bureaus of the Government since last March. When it comes, however, to questions of public policy, considerations of party seem to control. It does not appear that non-Democrats are called in consultation on such matters. It would be incorrect, perhaps, to say that the non-partisan or non-Democrat is *persona non grata*, but the person who is not affiliated with the party in power is decidedly outside the processes by which public policies are formulated and carried into effect.

Five, six, ten years ago it was quite otherwise. There is a reason for the difference. Then there was a majority party in power, and within that majority party there were many who were as heartily out of sympathy with the administration as any partisan opponent. Now there is a minority party in power that must hold its own ranks firm. Though the Progressive movement still transcends party lines, the election of last year, with three parties in the field, stiffened the party lines—at least in Congress. Under these conditions the Democratic party, if it is to remain in power, must vindicate itself as a party. There is no such easy give and take across party lines as there was a few years ago.

A POLICY OF SILENCE

One result of this state of affairs is silence on the matter of policy in relation to big problems confronting the country. It is hard to learn what the Administration intends regarding them. This reticence, which is felt in Congress as well as out of it, is variously interpreted. Some of the opponents of the Administration call it "pussy-footing." They feel that the Administration is not sure of itself, is feeling around to see which way to move. These critics feel that by this means the Administration is storing up trouble for itself. There are other explanations that a Democrat would be more ready to accept. It is true that stupid or careless silence does lead to trouble; but shrewd reticence is another matter. For one thing, it keeps one's political opponent guessing; for another, it makes possible confidences within the party leadership, which act as a sort of cement. But, whatever the explanations, the fact remains. On certain matters Washington is reticent.

WHAT ABOUT MEXICO?

To pass by those matters which have yet to be dealt with by Congress, like the trusts and the overshadowing problem of industrial relations, the one subject on which this reticence has been recently pronounced is Mexico.

That the Administration has had a fairly well formulated policy with relation to the distressing state of affairs that is keeping our nearest neighbor to the south in a turmoil is a natural presumption; but what that policy was, or even whether there was a definite policy sufficiently considered so that moves could be anticipated whatever might happen, was not known beyond a small circle within the Administration. Unfriendly critics of the Administration have therefore interpreted

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the Administration's policy to suit themselves. They have called it a policy of haphazard, of taking one step without knowing what the next step was going to be. That is the inevitable result of reticence; rumor or surmise takes the place of authoritative information. There are occasions, however, when it is better to take chances with rumor or surmise than to spoil a delicate situation with words. It is to the credit of the majority in both the House and the Senate, as well as of the opposition, that at this juncture Congress has shown self-restraint, and has trusted to the judgment of the President.

WORKING TOGETHER

So, in this as in tariff legislation and the currency measure, the situation here in Washington reveals a party at present well organized and united with its acknowledged leader in the White House.

ERNEST HAMLIN ABBOTT.

THE CURRENCY BILL AND THE BANKS

THE three articles under the above title which appeared in The Outlook of August 9 have apparently excited considerable interest. From the numerous letters which we have received on the subject we select some representative ones, which we here print with our comments. The first letter, from a member of one of the oldest and most respected private banking houses of New York City, is a protest against the extent of Government regulation provided by the Currency Bill.

THE PROTEST

It seems to me that you are quite correct in saying that the main struggle comes over the question of the composition and powers of the Federal Reserve Board.

There are a number of details of the proposed bill which could be greatly improved. The complete readjustment of all the reserve funds in the country as contemplated by the present bill would be extremely unsettling unless a longer time for its accomplishment were provided.

But when you get down to the question of management and control, the bill does not involve correct principles or clear understanding of conditions. It would be perfectly proper to have a Federal Board empowered to exercise the closest supervision in order to see that the banks behave both honestly and fairly. As the Government is behind the currency, its representatives should be able to limit the amount to be issued and refuse improper collateral when offered. But there is all the difference in the world between regulation and management, and that is where your writer falls down.

Of course it is right that the Inter-State Commerce Commission should prevent railroads from acting unfairly or dishonestly, but it is not the function of the Inter-State Commerce Commission to do the actual managing of the roads. The railroad managers themselves are the ones to decide between Mallet and Mikado locomotives, between steel and concrete bridges, between wood and brick stations.

With banking, this distinction between regulation and management is fully as marked, for banking is a technical and delicate business, greatly influenced by custom and business usage.

The truth is that just the same influences that so often tend to make those in control of property dishonest tend to make irresponsible governmental regulators extravagant. The responsibility for the control and management of an organization must be placed upon its owners, and then the Government should supervise their actions sufficiently closely and with sufficient power so that the owners cannot act illegally and unfairly.

Now, with this Currency Bill as proposed, the Federal Reserve Board constitutes the management of a huge banking organization, and that management should be composed of able, experienced bankers. It is equally inconvenient to the bank depositor if his money is stolen or is wasted, and the placing of the control of all bank deposits in this country in the hands of a bunch of amateurs is pure lunacy.

Put the actual management in the hands of the ablest and most experienced bankers that we have, and then give some governmental body a veto power and an inquisitorial power strong enough and far-reaching enough to prevent the bankers from using their function selfishly or harmfully.

THE REPLY

We accept without reserve your admirably phrased statement that the Inter-State Commerce Commission should regulate but should not manage the railways, and that "the railroad managers themselves are the ones to decide between Mallet and Mikado locomotives, between steel and concrete bridges, between wood and brick stations." Assenting to this general principle, we cannot see how it is violated by the Currency Bill now before Congress except possibly in one particular, and that not an essential one. There lie before us as we write a copy of the Glass Bill and a copy of the Aldrich Bill which was generally supported by the bankers of the

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country. It is true that the Glass Bill provides that the Federal Reserve Board may compel "a Federal Reserve Bank to rediscount the paper of any other Federal Reserve Bank." Adopting your analogy, it may perhaps be said that this is compelling the banks to purchase a Mallet instead of a Mikado locomotive. But in what other respect does the Glass Bill interfere with the daily management of, let us say, the National City Bank more than the Aldrich Bill did? Of course, under the Glass Bill the National City Bank will not have an opportunity to exercise its powerful voice in the choice of the managers of the Federal Reserve Board, as it could have done under the Aldrich Bill. But will this prevent the National City Bank from determining to whom it shall make loans; or what shall be the character of the commercial paper or collateral that justifies those loans; or in what bonds it shall invest its surplus funds; or whether it shall accept the account of the Cornwall National Bank as one of its country correspondents?

If we were bankers, we should prefer to have the general principles laid down under which we could transact our business and to be let alone so long as we did not violate those principles, rather than to have a governmental body with "inquisitorial power" interfering with every specific act.

Your reference to the possibility of the Federal Reserve Board being composed of "a bunch of amateurs" does not appear to us to be justified by a careful reading of the Glass Bill. The bill as now before Congress makes it mandatory that the Federal Reserve Board shall consist of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Comptroller of the Currency, and the Secretary of Agriculture, and that of the four additional members to be appointed by the President "at least one shall be a person experienced in banking." We can only repeat what we have several times previously said, that a President of the United States who did not under this bill make every effort to appoint experienced and highly trained men would inevitably destroy himself.

The second letter we select refers not to the Currency Bill but to a phrase in "The Little Catechism on Money," which constituted one of the group of currency articles. In that catechism we defined commerce as "the exchange of life's commodities and necessities, and of labor by individuals with individuals, communities with communities, and nations with nations."

THE PROTEST

While finding much to admire in last week's number (the issue of August 9) I cannot agree with your definition of trade or commerce as taking place between individuals, communities, or nations. Is it not all between individuals? What organization is there by which either communities or nations can enter into trade? Who directs it for them? Who keeps their books and divides their profits? Is it not merely a figure of speech when we say that the United States exports cotton, wheat, etc.? Is it not all done by individuals? Senator Williams recently said in Congress: "I have never seen, for the life of me, any sense in the idea that seems to get into some men's heads that one nation trades with another."

Perhaps it is a matter that is not of particular importance, yet it seems to me that such a use as a fact of what is merely a figure of speech is misleading, as I have pointed out in my book "Free Trade Versus Protection," just published. The only instance that occurs to me now of a nation's entering into trade is Brazil and her coffee valorization scheme; that, we may expect, will fail, since it is a violation of the laws of economics. AMASA M. EATON.

Providence, Rhode Island.

THE REPLY

Our definition of commerce still seems to us to be scientifically and economically correct. Would you not say that the United States Steel Corporation trades with the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad Company? We think so, although it is individuals who perform the labor of paying and receiving the cash, keeping the books, packing the goods and shipping them. Nations as nations are constantly passing laws which either retard or promote trade. Protective tariffs and reciprocity treaties are just as much a part of commerce as the Brazilian valorization scheme. When the United States Government (representing the Nation) says to the French Government (representing the Nation), If you will reduce the duty on beef we will reduce the duty on champagne, that is not merely an act of commerce—it is a commercial contract. We do not say that all such acts are wise. It is, of course, perfectly legitimate to contend that nations should not enter into commerce with one another, and that industry and merchandising should be purely individualistic. In the sentence, however, which you criticise, we were referring not to theories but to facts. Even in the realm of theory our belief is that social welfare demands that nations shall trade with one another.

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Another correspondent protests against our conclusion, drawn from the telegraphic statistics received from thirty-seven of the forty-eight States, that Postal Savings Banks have helped the ordinary and benevolent savings institutions.

THE PROTEST

I am a firm believer in The Outlook and in the soundness of most of its opinions, but I was greatly surprised on reading the article in the issue of August 9 to learn that it was willing to base such sweeping conclusions as appear therein upon the meager and insufficient data published therewith. The single fallacy which renders the conclusion stated of no value rests in the failure of the writer of the article to distinguish between a *growth* of deposits in savings institutions since the establishment of postal savings banks and such a growth *resultant from* the establishment of postal savings banks. . . . Before the increase recorded in any one telegram can be attributed in any measure to the establishment of postal savings banks, it will be at least necessary to show that the percentage of such increase since such establishment exceeds the percentage of increase before; and even then there are so many factors, economic and otherwise, to be considered, that the proof would not be at all conclusive. The mere fact that there has been an increase shows nothing at all.

I am not opposing postal savings banks and am not interested in any savings institution. My own opinion is that postal savings banks do bring hidden money into circulation, but that their effect upon other savings institutions is practically nil.

I write this letter as a form of protest against the publication of conclusions based upon insufficient data or no data at all.

Cleveland, Ohio. GROVER H. HALL.

THE REPLY

We fear our correspondent is more interested in logic and dialectic than he is in currency reform. A weak spot may be found even in his dialectic, for he says, after reading our statistics, that he believes that the effect of postal savings banks "upon other savings institutions is practically *nil*." This is merely stating in another form and with less emphasis our own conclusion that the statistics demonstrate that the postal savings banks "have not affected other saving institutions unfavorably." Our belief is that the effect has been favorable, but on this point we leave another correspondent to reply to the protest:

Your article on the postal savings banks, with the information contained in the accompanying telegrams, was most interesting and timely. There are one or two points, however, that I hope you will call attention to in a succeeding issue of The Outlook.

1. The absurd restrictions placed on the amount of deposits which the postal bank may receive from an individual.

2. Make it clear that under the law all postal bank deposits are redeposited in privately owned banks, so that the postal bank is an unquestioned and positive aid to them; and that through this agency they now have between thirty and forty millions of dollars in deposits that would be in hiding were it not for the postal banks.

3. Point out that if the absurd restrictions to which I have called attention were removed other uncounted millions would be brought from hiding and reach the privately owned banks via the postal banks.

Chicago, Illinois. JAMES DOUGLAS.

An Indiana manufacturer courteously protests that there is some ground for fearing that the Federal Reserve Board, as constituted by the Currency Bill, will be susceptible to pernicious political influences.

THE PROTEST

In the issue of The Outlook for August 9 I notice you discuss the Currency Bill now before Congress, using the argument that the present plan of the bill to have a Federal Board of Control does not involve the creation of a political body—that it would be no more political than the United States Supreme Court or the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

There is one very vital difference, and that is that the Supreme Court and the Inter-State Commerce Commission are appointed for life. The Board of Control under the new Currency Bill would be appointed every four years, and there would be more or less of politics in it. Members of this Board of Control, in my opinion, should be appointed for life, and be removable for cause. The Board would then be entirely removed from any possible political influence. E. D. JOHNSTON.

Connersville, Indiana.

THE REPLY

This suggestion deserves carefu. considera-tion. Administrative Departments of the Government have certainly suffered in the past from incapable or untrustworthy political appointees. And yet the President ought not to be deprived of the right to choose the members of his Cabinet, two of whom are to be *ex officio* members of the Federal Reserve Board; and we are inclined to think that the country would prefer to trust to the growing sentiment in favor of retention of Government officers of proved merit, and to the wisdom of Presidents in making appointments, rather than to risk the dangers of creating a bureaucracy by life appointments. We admit that it is very difficult in administrative government to avoid the Scylla of intrenched bureaucracy on the one hand and

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to avoid also the Charybdis of political instability on the other hand.

The final protest comes from the vice-president of a Trust Company in the central West, and deals with what we have steadily believed is the fundamental and almost sole objection of the bankers to the Administration Currency Bill, namely, that it takes the control of our National banking and currency system out of the hands of the bankers and puts it in the hands of the Government.

THE PROTEST

You criticise bankers for objecting to Government supervision, but without considering the nature of the supervision to which they object. Government supervision is not objectionable to National banks. They have always had it and no other business has had so much of it. But the Glass-Owen Currency Bill goes way beyond supervision. It provides for absolute management by the politically appointed Federal Reserve Board.

The twelve regional reserve banks are to be directed and managed by a board of directors only one-third of whom can represent or own the stock; one-third of the members are appointed by the Federal Reserve Board; and another one-third "who must represent the agricultural, commercial, and industrial interests of the section" are removable by the Federal Reserve Board. The Federal Reserve Board appoints a chairman for each regional bank, fixes his salary, and may remove any of the officers of any of the regional banks. This gives the Federal Reserve Board complete domination of the Boards of Directors and officers and their acts in each of the twelve regional banks. This is not Government "supervision," it is Government management. It puts the United States Government squarely in the banking business. As a practical application of Socialism it is a great advance on "government ownership." Other powers and duties of the Federal Reserve Board emphasize this control and place the initiative for acts as well as policies on the political appointees in such a way as to make favoritism and misuse of power inevitable. This is only part of the reason why bankers object to the bill as drawn, but it should be sufficient.

The bill needs much amending by men trained in the banking business, who, however, expect to get no individual profit out of it or collective advantage over other business.

Waterloo, Iowa. E. L. JOHNSON.

THE REPLY

The Government management of banks, of which our correspondent complains, concerns only the twelve regional banks and does not affect in any way the daily transactions of the ordinary National banks of deposit and issue, which would be carried on under the new bill exactly as they are to-day. Moreover, we have heard in the past National bankers complain of the "favoritism and misuse of power" which are sometimes displayed by the great and powerful banks of the present system. We refer our readers to the two following letters as typical of the feeling of many men actively engaged in industrial and financial affairs that it is not expedient to intrust the control of our National banking system solely to bankers. The first letter is from a successful manager and reorganizer of industrial and transportation corporations; the second from a well-known Boston lawyer:

I have read your article on the Currency Bill with a great deal of interest, and it has converted me from the position that the bankers rather than the Administration should control the Regional Reserve Association. The fact that bankers are apt to be traders in money and credits rather than financiers is so true that the statement ought to be, and probably will be, applauded in many sections of the country. The action of the bankers in the Reserve cities in hoarding their money at the present time on the plea that this money must be kept in hand so that, should the Currency Bill pass, they will be able to return the reserves they are holding to their correspondents, is making many merchants and manufacturers feel that the bankers are not all that they crack themselves up to be in a crisis, or in a situation for which there is no precedent. P. H. F.

Your article in The Outlook for August 9 on "The Currency Bill and the Banks" discusses "bankers" without touching what seems to me to be the vital point in regard to bankers in the United States.

Are the bankers of the United States bankers at all in the European sense, and does not the difference between the American and European banker make all the difference in the world when one is considering the machinery for the control of currency based on commercial credit?

The American banker is, as you say, a well-to-do man of education, intelligence, and intellectual power, but, at the same time, he is a man who, as a rule, is more interested in the *borrowing* end of finance than in the *lending* end. He is, as a rule, a man interested primarily and principally in commercial and industrial enterprise. He is a "banker" *incidentally only*. His interests are distinctly *on both sides* of the loaning transaction.

It is my belief that this is not true of the European banker. He is a banker pure and simple, interested in the safe investment and loaning of money. He corresponds more nearly to the trustee lawyer of this country, although the analogy between the cases is not close.

If we put the control of the issue of currency based upon credit in the hands of American bankers, shall we not approach a condition in which men will be passing upon their own credit?

G. U. C.

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IS THE COLLEGE MAKING GOOD?

*The article by Mr. Edward Bok, published in The Outlook of August 16, under the title "Is the College Making Good?" has evidently been widely read and discussed. The newspaper comment and the large number of letters received by The Outlook show positively that the subject is of direct interest and importance. As a further contribution to the discussion we print below a few of the letters received in this office. We find nothing in the criticisms made which controverts effectively Mr. Bok's main contentions—that a college-bred man should write good English, that a knowledge of one's own language is the very basis of all education, and that the secondary schools, because of the pressure by colleges for high examination standards in other branches, are not sending boys up to college with the training in English which they should get in the schools.—*THE EDITORS.

WHO IS TO BLAME?

Mr. Bok's article, "Is the College Making Good?" in The Outlook for August 16, displays some glaring defects in the spelling and letter-writing of our supposedly educated young people. But I question whether he is justified in laying the blame for these defects at the door of our colleges, or, in fact, entirely at the feet of our educational system.

It was my privilege to have the best kind of training in English composition at the Hotchkiss School. Three times a week for a year we students had to write a two-hundred-word composition in twenty minutes. Those essays were criticised for us in a private interview with the master, in addition to the regular class-room instruction. Could I ask for any better training? Yet I was unable to secure a grade of more than eighty for English composition in the Yale examination. In my rhetoric class at Yale the man who got the highest grade, I believe, was a Chinaman who couldn't speak English distinctly enough to be understood. He simply mastered the subject more thoroughly than the rest of the class. In both of these cases the fault, if any, lay not in the training but with the students.

But even if the training is faulty, the high schools and secondary schools, not the colleges, must take the blame. The art of writing and spelling is supposed to be mastered before entering college. Every applicant has to pass a stiff test in English before he is admitted. If he allows himself to become careless and forgets what he has learned during his preparatory course, the college cannot be held accountable any more than if he forgets arithmetic or physiology.

There is one more point I would like to mention. The usual critic of colleges has his idea of what a college ought to be. He picks out instances of college life which he has discovered and expects them to conform to his ideal. If they do not, the college is at fault. Is that the fairest way? Why not all do as Mr. Bok does—compare the college man with the man in a similar position outside? Mr. Bok suggests that we compare the business man four years out of college with the non-college man who has had eight years of business experience. Why not give the college man a little more time? Let him have his four years of cultural training in college, two years of business apprenticeship, and four years more for good measure. Then compare him with the non-college man of ten years' business experience. And I believe the college will be in the lead in most cases.

Liberty, New York. EDWARD J. HOYT.

REAL EDUCATION AND MATERIALISTIC TRAINING

In Mr. Bok's article, "Is the College Making Good?" in your issue of August 16, as in most of the current criticisms of our colleges, some of the main assumptions seem to me, and will seem to thousands of college people, radically mistaken and decidedly unfortunate.

With Mr. Bok's first criticism, to be sure, many college teachers will heartily agree. For the illiteracy of a large proportion of our college graduates there can be no excuse; properly, of course, it is the high schools, or rather the grade schools, which should teach spelling (whether conventional or simplified), grammar, and legible chirography, and the brunt of the attacks in this matter should really fall on them or on the public which supports them. But since they actually fail, the obligation passes on to the colleges; and until the colleges are willing to devote to the teaching of composition the necessary attention and to require a reasonable degree of proficiency in it as a condition of graduation,

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they deserve all the blame, and more, which they are now receiving.

The element in Mr. Bok's attitude against which most college teachers will chiefly protest is his sympathy with the present widespread and persistent effort to substitute for real education a materialistic training in so-called "practical" things. Without any doubt, our college graduates ought to be fitted to be efficient home-makers and good citizens; and if, under the present conditions of American life, they cannot be taught in the proper place, namely, at home, to be competent cooks and amateur mechanics, the colleges, or the lower schools, probably, ought to take the time to supply the deficiency. Of the necessity of a knowledge of hygiene and civics there can be, of course, no question. But all this is now receiving plenty of emphasis; and the most essential thing for the colleges to-day is the effective realization that higher education should consist mainly of just that thing of which Mr. Bok seems contemptuous, namely, the liberal culture which gives breadth of vision and ideals, and which, among other results, creates dissatisfaction with our actual "practical" life of largely meaningless, wasteful, and selfish activity. This is not to say, of course, that the education of liberal culture should unfit men and women for taking part in "practical" life as it does exist; and it would be difficult to prove that the "practical" inefficiency of young college graduates, however serious it may actually be, is the fault of the colleges, or, at any rate, of their "unpractical" studies, rather than of general factors in American life.

It is, of course, traditional and popular to say, as some of Mr. Bok's respondents do, that college professors are "study-teachers, not men." Generalization here must always be a matter of personal opinion. It may reasonably be asked whether college undergraduates have the maturity and experience to give their opinions authority. The opinion of the present writer is necessarily biased; but, at any rate, he believes that the average college professor of the present day compares favorably, take it all in all, with the average person in any other occupation, not only in ideals, but in "practical" sense, wisdom, and efficiency in his own sphere.

The American college of the present day, like all other things human, has many faults, of some of which, at least, most college teachers are painfully conscious. That it is more of a failure, or less hopefully progressive, than most of the other institutions of American life does not seem to some of us to be in way of demonstration.

One other point in Mr. Bok's article is minor but not without a certain significance. He is indignant because a large number of the students to whom he addressed his questionnaire failed to reply. But why is any person under obligation to express his opinions to a stranger on demand? Personally, I can see no more culpability in throwing into the waste-basket any questionnaire (accompanied or not with a stamped or addressed envelope) which it is not convenient to answer, than in shutting the door on an importunate agent. In fact, these questionnaires have long since become a real nuisance, at least in college circles.

ROBERT H. FLETCHER
(Professor of English Literature).
Grinnell College.

A QUESTION OF BUSINESS ETHICS

I wish that The Outlook would discuss the question of ethics raised by Mr. Edward Bok in his article in the current number of The Outlook on "Is the College Making Good?" Mr. Bok criticises severely the 1,426 young men who failed to reply to his letter. He characterizes them as having "no conception of the fundamental business rule of courtesy that a business letter calls for an answer, and that a stamped, addressed envelope entails, in a sense, a moral obligation upon the receiver." I am not engaged in business, but my time is very fully occupied with professional and literary work, and my name is sufficiently well known to bring to me in the course of the year a large number of communications inclosing stamped envelopes for reply. At the present moment my desk drawer contains some ten or twelve of these envelopes, which I have not the courage to put in the waste-basket and not the time to answer. The question I want answered is whether any person can put a busy man or woman under the moral obligation of answering a letter, which would take a considerable amount of valuable time, by the simple process of inclosing an envelope with a two-cent stamp upon it. I have thought of simply returning these envelopes empty to show that I am not profiting by the vast sum of two cents by keeping them. That plan seems to me, however, more discourteous than merely ignoring the letters. Mr. Bok seems to think that no one is justified in refusing

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to dissipate time and strength in answering a letter when a writer of it has paid two cents in order to put a moral lien upon his correspondent. Do the readers of The Outlook generally take this view of unsolicited correspondence? A. G. PORRITT.

Hartford, Connecticut.

[Several other correspondents present the same point of view.—THE EDITORS.]

TIMELY AND FAR-REACHING

Mr. Bok's contribution in the last issue of The Outlook is not only most timely, but far-reaching in its moral effect upon teachers, schools, and so-called educators.

It is a most lamentable fact that so large a percentage of young women and young men are ignorant of their mother tongue, and if Mr. Bok's work is pursued it is bound to have a most wholesome influence upon the entire Nation.

Nearly twenty-five years of practical experience has taught me the lesson that it is an exception when a boy or a young man applying for a position is sure of his writing and grammar, and the usual exception to this rule is the boy coming from German parents, or very often the English and the Scotch.

Is this not a most deplorable condition?

I had a case some time ago where, in the presence of a number of young men, important questions were asked as to the early history of the United States—for instance: "What were the real achievements of Henry Clay? How did he rank as a statesman? Who was Calhoun?" Not one of the young men present could give a definite and correct answer.

A similar experience led me to inquire as to some points of American history among German boys, during my residence abroad some time ago. I found that the largest percentage of them gave correct answers, and were familiar not only with their own country but with details of American history which surprised even me.

Strange to say, the only American boys who were almost perfect in handwriting and really qualified to seek a business position were young fellows educated by the Jesuits.

Some time ago a prominent American commission house on Broadway advertised for an entry clerk. Many hundreds of applications came, and I had the privilege of going through those selected by a member of the firm as the most available. Not more than a dozen of the applications were fairly well written, and the tone of most of the letters revealed so much ignorance that business men of experience had every reason to feel ashamed of the present-day education.

Something is wrong in the education of our young people. Surely these conditions did not exist forty years ago, when the overwhelming majority of young people were excellent grammarians and writers. It seems that the present-day mental poison, brought into homes by undesirable literature, undermines the best intentions and groundwork of our youth.

Mr. Bok has the courage to pursue his work, and the Nation must be thankful to him. MAX JÄGERHUBER.

Harriman, New York.

THE COLLEGE DOES MAKE GOOD

The article entitled "Is the College Making Good?" states as to women that the consensus of opinion was that college had benefited women physically, culturally, and socially, and had helped them much in mental training, yet had in no practical sense fitted them for their work as wife, mother, or home-maker. The question is, How could anything which benefits physically, culturally, socially, and mentally fail to make woman better fitted for her life work, whatever it may be?

And the college would undoubtedly relegate the teaching of "simple good writing, spelling, and grammar" to the graded school, and to the home the teaching of courtesy.

ELOISE S. BRADSHAW.

Menominee, Michigan.

THE RIGHT KIND OF EFFICIENCY

Mr. Bok obtains letters from one hundred women graduates and four hundred and forty-nine men graduates of certain of our leading colleges, and then proceeds to apply to these letters a measuring wand of his own selection, and from the results of his investigation or arbitrary grading of these letters he draws certain conclusions which he considers as a definite answer to the question at the head of his article, namely, "Is the College Making Good?"

As I read Mr. Bok's article I am compelled to conclude that he is not attempting to answer the question which appears at the head of that article, but rather to answer that question with an added qualifying clause which appears in a sentence near the close of his article. The title, to fit the subject matter

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correctly, should read · Is the college making good in training the young man who is preparing for a business career? To that question Mr. Bok's article is an answer, but, I believe, an answer based on data obtained from the wrong source.

Has he not a mistaken idea of the object and aim of our colleges? He seems to assume that the prime object of a college should be to prepare young men for business careers; but is that the object for which they were created and for which they are now carried on? According to the Century Dictionary, a college, as that word is used in Scotland, Canada, and the United States, is "an incorporated and endowed institution of learning of the highest grade." The Standard Dictionary is a little more explicit. It defines a college as: "An incorporated institution in which advanced courses of instruction are given. Specifically: A school for instruction in the liberal arts, having a course of study either fixed or partly fixed and partly elective, commonly requiring four years for completion." These definitions do not seem to imply that the chief end of a college education is to obtain a preparation for a business career, but rather that the aim of the college student should be to get an education. But what is an education?

Education is "the imparting or acquisition of knowledge; mental and moral training; cultivation of the mind, feelings, and manners. Education in a broad sense, with reference to man, comprehends all that disciplines and enlightens the understanding, corrects the temper, cultivates the taste, and forms the manners and habits" (Century Dictionary). "The totality of the qualities acquired through individual instruction and social training, which further the happiness, efficiency, and capacity for social service of the educated" (Webster's Dictionary).

Now, to determine whether or not our colleges are making good in imparting to young men and women such an education, Mr. Bok obtains 549 letters from young men and women about to graduate from college, and subjects them to a process of grading by a high school teacher to find out how they "would stand in a simple test for composition, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and more particularly to examine the thought and the quality of the English." In summarizing the results of this test great stress is laid upon the deficiencies in grammar, spelling, and punctuation, and the illegibility of many of the letters is strikingly illustrated and described. It is an unquestioned fact that many of our college graduates are woefully deficient in the elements of language and in the ability to write legibly, but is the college to blame? These elements of language do not fall within the scope of "advanced courses of instruction." Their place is not in the college curriculum, but in the primary and secondary schools.

When it comes to composition and the thought and quality of the English, Mr. Bok cites examples which are far from what one would expect from a college senior. But the question may well be asked if even this is a suitable measure by which to determine the success or failure of the college to perform its function. Probably few mature authors are able to write compositions of any considerable length which are correct when they are first penned, and it is well known that our masters of English have revised and corrected again and again the manuscripts of their works before these were allowed to go into print. If this is true of mature, experienced writers, is there any reason why we should expect young men and women, before they have quite completed their student days, to be able to write a letter that is perfect in the composition thought, and quality of its English? A well-known professor in one of our leading technical schools is in the habit of telling his students that when they complete their course and receive their B.S. degree they are not experts in their chosen field, but only beginners. He makes this idea more realistic, perhaps, by telling them that the B.S. should not be interpreted in the usual way but rather as the abbreviation for the expression "Babes in Science." The same might be said of the graduates of our colleges. When they receive their A.B. degree they are not complete finished products or machines, ready to grind out the grist of life in a perfect manner, but only beginners who have reached such a stage in their education that it is possible for them to pass out from the direction and supervision of their instructors and take up the task of completing their education by individual effort and independent work. If the college has so trained and equipped them that they can do this, and do it well, then the college has made good, whether or not their pre-graduation letters and theses were perfect in composition, grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

Mr. Bok says that "the nearest approach to the practical in these answers is

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when the question of money or of earning power is discussed." That "practically none mention that they feel they have been made more efficient." What does our critic mean by practical and efficient? Does he consider that the dollars-and-cents standard is the only standard by which practical results and efficiency can be measured? The statement concerning efficiency is preceded by remarks about the "wearying recurrence of the 'broader outlook on life' and the inevitable 'molding of character,' as well as the familiar 'teaches you to think for yourself,' and the self-evident 'increases your knowledge.'" Does our critic believe that a young man is no more efficient or practical in any walk in life even with increased knowledge and the ability to do independent thinking?

Considerable emphasis is laid upon the remarks of the seventy-seven seniors who are either in doubt or are sure that their years at college have been wasted. These men say that the courses are for the most part impractical; that they consist of fine-spun theorizing with too little application to the practical affairs of life; that they have been taught by "study-teachers, not by men." It must be borne in mind that there are cynics and pessimists in every walk in life—in college as well as in the business world. There are one-talent men in every student body who think that the only way to preserve their single talent is to wrap it figuratively in a napkin and lay it away for safe keeping until after they get out of college, as well as the five-talent and two-talent men who double or even quadruple their resources by the training they receive there. If at the end of their college course the one-talent man finds that some five-talent man has acquired the talent which he thought was his very own, he must not blame the college, but himself. Perhaps these seventy-seven men would have been even more dissatisfied with the results if they had spent the four years in some other way.

In regard to the fine-spun theorizing, impractical courses, etc., and practical life and efficiency, Mr. Bok seems to display as great a lack of knowledge as the seventy-seven pessimistic students from whom he quotes. A few years ago a member of a well-known mining society sent in a communication on a purely theoretical subject which was nevertheless very interesting. He sent with it a letter to the secretary saying that it was purely theoretical and so far as he could see of no practical value, and that perhaps it would not be worth while to publish it in the transactions of the society. He received in reply a letter of thanks for his communication, in which the secretary remarked that the theories of to-day may be the practical rules of to-morrow or some future day. This is the attitude of a most practical man trained in the practical affairs of life.

Mr. Bok quotes statements from unnamed business men to the effect that they do not care to employ college men until a year or two after they have left college, and until after they have had some of their impractical theories knocked out of them; but he does not tell us whether these men were of the type of the late Robert C. Ogden, a man who put into successful effect the Golden Rule and the Ten Commandments, or men whose success was attained only because they had the ability to use as stepping-stones toward that success the wrecks of ruined competitors. It is a well-known fact that this latter class can make little use of college graduates as long as they attempt to maintain the standards of life and live up to the ideals which they have acquired in our leading colleges. On the other hand, the "Golden Rule" merchants and business men can and do make use of college graduates. But they as well as the college instructors recognize the fact that, in so far as business training is concerned, the college graduate is little, if at all, farther advanced than the high school graduate or even the grammar school graduate.

If "Who's Who in America" shows that over seventy per cent of our great and "near great" are college-trained men, drawn from the few thousands who have had the opportunities of a college education, while less than thirty per cent are drawn from the several millions who never attended college, is not that a better answer to the question at issue than the answer which Mr. Bok deduces from the letters of some five hundred and forty-nine men and women about to graduate from our leading colleges? Our colleges have weak points, and perhaps many of them are not fulfilling their purpose in a satisfactory manner, but the way to right the wrong is not to turn them into elementary schools to teach composition, spelling, and punctuation, nor to turn them into business colleges to teach the elementary principles of business life and business methods.

THOMAS C. BROWN.
Bryn Mawr College, Department of Geology.

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THE MEDICAL PROFESSION AND THE CONSERVATION OF HEALTH

BY EDWARD H. LEWINSKI-CORWIN, PH.D., IN COLLABORATION WITH EARL W. MAYO

Is the health of the children in our schools adequately safeguarded? When the parents of a school-child send him off in the morning to his tasks in the school-room, are they sure that all has been done that reasonably could be done to see that he is physically fit for the work he is to do, that the conditions under which he is to work are such as will not undermine his health, that he will not be exposed carelessly to contagion, that he will have the training that will make his body as well as his mind well and wholesomely developed? Keenly interested in such questions as every father and mother must be, no citizen who cares for the future of the race can be indifferent to them. No such extended discussion of these and kindred questions has been undertaken in this country as that which is outlined in the programme of the Fourth International Congress on School Hygiene—the first to be held in America—at Buffalo this week, August 25–30. The President of the Congress is Charles W. Eliot, President Emeritus of Harvard. The list of participants in the discussion includes both medical men and educational leaders. The facts as to conditions, suggestions as to measures of improvement, and lines which may be followed in the education of public opinion on this subject of school hygiene have been included in the programme of discussion. It is because of its close bearing on this subject that The Outlook publishes this week the following article. It is the product of two men who have worked in collaboration. Dr. E. H. Lewinski-Corwin is the Executive Secretary of the New York Academy of Medicine. By virtue of his office he has been in a position to know of the facts which he has furnished. Mr. Mayo is the author of a number of articles on medical subjects which have appeared in The Outlook, and which have not only been of general public interest and value, but have also received the approval of medical authorities. In a later issue The Outlook will print an account of the Congress.—THE EDITORS.

THERE are certain outstanding facts about the medical profession which the layman, in spite of his occasional complaints against the fallibility of doctors, will readily admit. There is no other profession, unless we except the service of the Church, which throughout its history has dispensed so much practical charity and given so much gratuitous service to the cause of humanity. There is no other that has maintained a higher code of ethics or one more scrupulously adhered to. There is no other that places so great and arduous responsibilities upon its practitioners. There is scarcely another that requires such exacting training or such careful and continuous amplification of scientific equipment. The medical man who conscientiously meets the many and exacting requirements of his vocation has little time or opportunity for an avocation.

By its very nature and by force of the circumstances surrounding its practice the medical profession calls for social service of the highest sort. And the call is one that almost invariably meets a ready response. Yet, by reason of the character of his work and training, the physician usually is an individualist and a conservatist. His services and his charities are mainly individual and personal. The accumulated experience of his own calling teaches the danger of radical departures from time-tested methods and impresses the slow pace which sure progress must assume. It is not surprising, therefore, that his attitude toward many heralded social movements is one of frank questioning or of open skepticism.

In one vital field of social effort, however, the physician is a leader. Too often, in fact, his is the only strong effort put forth for its advancement. Curiously enough, too, this field of activity is one in which he is, to a degree, working against his direct financial interests. It is the public health movement. In almost every direction in which notable advancement in the conservation of public

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health has been achieved we find that the initial impetus, as well as most of the later progress, has come from the organized activities of the medical profession. This is true not only of those discoveries as to methods of disease prevention for which we naturally must look to men of professional skill and equipment. It is equally true in the broader sphere comprehended within the application of facts of established truth and general acceptance to the cause of health promotion. It becomes pertinent, therefore, to ask ourselves if those who live by the presence and prevalence of disease find it worth while for the sake of humanity and social progress to labor for the conservation of public health, whether it is not high time that we, the public, who profit by these efforts, should extend to them a heartier and more general measure of co-operation and support.

To gain a better grasp of the situation and also perhaps some light upon the problems which will be brought to a readier and earlier solution by a broader measure of co-operation between the public and the medical profession, it may be worth while to consider briefly some of the directions in which the activities of the medical profession have been expended in advancing the cause of public health. For this purpose we may take as an illustration certain features of the work of one of the most influential medical organizations in the country, the New York Academy of Medicine.

The Code of Medical Ethics, adopted in 1847 by the American Medical Association, recognizes physicians as conservators of public health and declares that "it is a delicate and noble task, by the judicious application of Public Hygiene to prevent disease and lengthen life, and thus to increase the productive industry, and, without assuming the office of moral and religious teaching, to add to the civilization of an entire people."

Early in its history the Academy of Medicine stated in its constitution that one of its four objects was the promotion of public health; and in 1852, following the precept already quoted, it created a standing Committee on Public Health. After undergoing several metamorphoses this committee became, in 1911, the Public Health, Hospital, and Budget Committee, with a membership of eighteen eminent and public-spirited men. Apart from its constructive social and scientific value, the work of this committee constitutes an instructive example for medical societies of other communities, and is full of interest and value to the lay citizen to whose welfare its work is devoted.

As illustrating two of the elementary yet vastly important fields of public welfare work in which there is still room for improvement in the most progressive communities, and to which in many localities scarcely any attention is paid as yet, a brief résumé will be given of the work done by the Academy of Medicine in New York in bringing about an efficient general medical inspection of schools and the adoption of a more complete and trustworthy system of registering vital statistics.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS

Recognition of the interdependence of the mental and physical conditions of normal human beings constitutes the foundation of and excuse for medical school inspection, which, originating independently in various European cities, has spread all over the Continent and England, established itself in 1898 in this country, and has reached South America, Egypt, and Japan. An educational system which does not develop health, intelligence, and health habit in children is unsound and impractical. Having adopted the principle of compulsory school attendance, we have taken upon ourselves impliedly the responsibility for the health of the children whom we keep in schools during the most tender and sensitive years of their existence. The bases and purpose of medical school work are everywhere the same; the differences lie in the thoroughness of performing the work and in administrative details. School hygiene work has been carried on in New York more extensively than in any other American city, and its problems, methods, and achievements therefore are of general interest, particularly at this time when the whole subject is brought under discussion by the great International Congress on School Hygiene at Buffalo.

EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

Of the total number of 230,243 schoolchildren examined in the public schools of New York in 1911 for non-contagious defects, 72.2 per cent were found to need treatment of some sort. Of these, 135,843 were found to have defective teeth. In the case of over 39 per cent this was the only trouble, while almost one-third were found to have other defects in addition to bad teeth. The children

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afflicted with defective vision were over 10 per cent; 0.6 per cent suffered from defective hearing; and nearly 12 per cent were found with defective nasal breathing, while 15 per cent had enlarged tonsils. Out of the total of 674,667 children in public schools in 1910, 286,591, or 43 per cent (dangerously near one-half), were found to have communicable eye and skin diseases, including trachoma, ringworm, conjunctivitis, scabies, and others.

It was estimated recently that, if the condition in New York is typical of the school-children in the whole United States, there must be in the schools of this country about 9,000,000 children with bad teeth. It was stated with authority that "bad teeth, decayed teeth, or the loss of teeth during childhood, its concomitant discomfort, pain, depression of spirit, and lack of appetite, produce that physiological poverty which renders the delicate system of the child not only more prone to tuberculosis, to the invasion of the germs of serious, acute, contagious diseases, such as measles, diphtheria, scarlet fever, etc., but also more susceptible to nervous afflictions, such as hysteria, chorea, and St. Vitus' dance." It is easy to realize what an effective and complete system of medical work in the schools means in increased happiness, decreased suffering, and greater mental and physical efficiency in the rising generation.

ELEMENTS OF EFFICIENT MEDICAL SCHOOL WORK

The health work in the schools is very complex and many-sided. Apart from the medical examination of school-children for contagious and non-contagious defects and the elimination of children suffering from communicable diseases, it is the task and duty of the medical and nursing staff to instruct the children in personal hygiene, to call the attention of parents to remediable defects, to direct the children to physicians or dispensaries for treatment, to follow them into their homes to see that treatment is given and instructions are obeyed, to examine the children joining in athletic sports, to instruct them in physical training, to segregate the backward and the mentally defective, to provide special training for those who are crippled or otherwise handicapped, and to supervise the sanitary conditions of schools. A well-rounded and efficient system of school work must recognize all these elements and correlate them into one organic and elastic entity. In addition to the efficiency and conscientiousness of the school medical staff, three conditions are absolutely essential for the success of school medical work: first and foremost, complete harmony of the medical authorities with the school authorities; secondly, the co-operation of the parents, of the medical profession, and of the dispensaries; and, thirdly, the adoption of the follow-up system.

QUESTION OF SINGLE OR DUAL AUTHORITY

In the great majority of the smaller American communities where school medical inspection is of comparatively recent date, the medical work is under the control of the school departments, where it logically belongs. Under such an arrangement, the first of the above-named requirements, that of harmony between the school and the physician, is fulfilled, and the duty of caring for the health of the children devolves entirely upon the schools, and they are directly responsible for it. In larger cities, where medical inspection has been carried on for a longer time, the work is often performed by two city departments—the Department of Health and the Department of Education. This division of authority and responsibility is a result of the gradual growth of appreciation of the need of health control of the children and their school environment—of taking up first one thing and then another—and is based on the theory that the control of contagious and communicable disease belongs to the Departments of Health, which are possessed of the proper administrative machinery for the performance of such work and with police power to enforce their orders.

In New York City the dual system of control prevails, and there are certain conditions that make effective and harmonious action particularly difficult. These arise from a variety of causes, one of which is the cumbersome organization of the Board of Education, which carries on its work through a number of separate committees. The three factors in the health environment of the school-children for which the Department of Education is responsible are: (1) the sanitary condition of schools; (2) instruction in physical training; and (3) the segregation and care of backward and mentally defective children. The first of these is under the supervision of three distinct committees; the second and third are directly under the city Superintendent of Schools. There is no concentration

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of all the activities of the Department of Education pertaining to health; there is no uniformity of policy, as the administration is scattered; and there is no localization of responsibility. Experience has shown that these requirements should be provided for in the organization or reconstruction of a medical school service.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS NEEDED

The second condition stipulated as a necessity of effective medical school work is the co-operation of the parents and of the medical profession and dispensaries. It is obvious that unless parents heed the recommendations of the medical school attendants and take steps to have the defects of their children remedied, nothing can be accomplished unless children are treated in the schools, a measure which, outside of dental and communicable eye and skin disease clinics, has not been tried in the city of New York. Private physicians and dispensaries in the past have not taken very keen interest in the medical school work, an attitude which is detrimental to efficiency, as the Department of Health considers a case closed when a notice is received from a physician that the child suffering from a defect is under his treatment. There is no law by which the Department of Health can undertake any further action even if, in the opinion of its inspectors, no treatment is given or the treatment is inadequate. Unfortunately, parents not infrequently are far more ready to evade health orders than to obey them. An instance has been reported in New York where a druggist carried on a business in selling certificates signed by a physician which could be exhibited as proof that children were under treatment, and it is said that he even advertised at moving-picture shows his readiness to supply such certificates. The existence of such conditions indicates the need of interesting parents in the medical work and of educating them to its practical value, and it suggests a field in which the intelligent portion of the lay public might render effective aid to the health authorities and school officials.

A provision that undoubtedly would add to the efficiency of the treatment of children requiring medical attention would be the establishment, by dispensaries, clinics, and out-patient departments of hospitals, of consultation hours for school-children in the late afternoon, together with arrangements for regular reports of progress and results of treatment.

THE USEFUL FIELD OF THE SCHOOL NURSE

The third essential prerequisite of successful medical inspection of school-children is a rigorous follow-up system. This, of course, has an important bearing upon the problem of securing the co-operation of parents. It is obviously useless and wasteful to stop with the mere discovery of defects. To secure effective results, not only should the attention of parents be called to the condition of their children, but notifications to that effect should be followed at short intervals by gentle but persistent insistence that the necessary treatment be applied. This is a proper and fruitful field for the activities of the school nurse. In New York, in addition to her other duties in the school, the nurse visits the homes of the children; explains the defects of the child to the parents; gives advice as to personal and home hygiene, and urges that a physician be consulted; or, in the case of poorer people, that the child be taken to a dispensary.

If the parents are too ignorant or inert to follow her advice, or if they are so employed that they cannot spare the time to take the child to a dispensary, the nurse does this, or should do it, herself. The activities of the school nurse are an essential part of effective medical inspection. In spite of the fact that the city of New York spends about $300,000 for that part of medical school work which is carried on by the schools, the force of inspectors and nurses is still inadequate to meet all the demands of the community.

As at present organized in New York, the work of the Department of Health in supervising the health and comfort of school-children is carried on through the Bureau of Child Hygiene; that of the Department of Education through a number of committees. The working corps of the Bureau of Child Hygiene is composed of physicians and nurses. The former make physical examinations, diagnose suspected cases of contagious diseases, and make absentee and other home visits; the latter make class inspections, exclude suspected cases of contagious disease, and do follow-up work in the homes. Except for the inadequacy of its facilities for the task provided, the operation of this division of the work seems to be reasonably effective. Of the branches of the work that have been left to the schools themselves, only the provision

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for physical training may thus far be regarded as adequate. The chief recommendations of the Public Health, Hospital, and Budget Committee of the Academy of Medicine, based on a study of existing conditions, are the enlargement of the working staff of the Child Hygiene Division, and a concentration of responsibility and control in the medical work of the Department of Education. It is pointed out that more thorough physical examinations, more frequent inspections, and an extension of the follow-up work, to secure better co-operation from parents and medical practitioners, are necessary. In view of the prevalence of physical defects, the Committee recommends that there should be one school nurse to every 2,500 children, and one physician to every 7,500.

Of the necessity, value, and importance of medical school inspection, the mere statement of the extent to which physical and mental defects abound in the schools is sufficient proof. When over seventy per cent of the pupils in the schools of a great city are found to be in need of treatment, and forty-three per cent are afflicted with communicable diseases, it is obvious that medical inspection and treatment advance to a position of equal importance with the mental training for which the schools are primarily conducted. But unless this work is so organized and conducted as to be comprehensive and thorough, much of the effort will be wasted. To secure a high degree of efficiency it is important that the public attitude be changed from the present one of general indifference to one of active interest and co-operation. Medical inspection of schools is work of the most direct and practical public value. It not only adds to the efficiency of those who are preparing to take up the work of the world, but at the same time it is helping to lighten the load of disease and dependence that oncoming generations otherwise must carry.

IMPORTANCE OF ACCURATE VITAL STATISTICS

While the relation between medical inspection of schools and the registration and compilation of vital statistics may not be particularly close, the two subjects are treated together here because both are fields in which the organized efforts of the medical profession have resulted in such progress as has been made and in which intelligent co-operation on the part of the public will contribute much to further progress and greater efficiency.

Vital statistics and demography have aptly been termed the bookkeeping of the public health movement. The importance of having such statistics and of making them as complete and comprehensive as possible is so evident that it seems impossible to give any reasonable explanation of the fact that at the present day such statistics are recorded, even partially, for only fifty-five per cent of the population of the United States. It is equally mortifying to be compelled to confess that the statistics recorded even for this portion of the American people are in great part so inaccurate and so incomplete that they are of comparatively slight use in furnishing a satisfactory guide to our progress in matters of health. While we maintain elaborate organizations and complete machinery for collecting and compiling elaborate records of manufactures, trade, and transportation, in this most vital and important matter we remain in the dark ages as compared with the leading nations of Europe.

In certain sections of the country, particularly in some of the older States and larger cities, very encouraging progress has been made in recent years toward the creation of an adequate system of health accounting. Such progress as has been achieved has resulted almost entirely from the efforts of medical organizations or of public health officers who themselves are, of course, members of the medical profession. To provide a comprehensive and widely useful system of vital statistics applicable to the whole country and useful for comparative studies, however, will require joint, or at least harmonious, action on the part of the Federal Government and the States as well as by municipalities. To bring about such a result the backing of a strong body of enlightened public sentiment is almost essential. Here is another field, therefore, in which it is important that the co-operation and support of the lay public, whose members will derive the benefit from the inauguration of an adequate system of vital statistics, shall be given to the medical profession, upon whose members will fall most of the work of making such a system effective.

While the health records of New York City are recognized as being more comprehensive than those of most American municipalities, they cannot compare in point of completeness with those of the leading cities of Europe. The Paris statistics, for example, contain much more detailed information and offer more bases for correlation than the New York

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tables do. They classify births not only as to living and stillborn, and as to sex and the ages of the parents, but they specify also the duration of marriage; they give the relation of age to fecundity; they report marriages by conjugal status before marriage and by the degree of consanguinity of husband and wife, and they convey a variety of other information helpful in charting the great movement of racial development and the causes contributing to its progress or decadence. By contrast with this the vital statistics report of New York has only two tables for births and only one for marriages. Similarly, in comparison with London, the New York reports are not only less detailed but are deficient in descriptive analyses.

INADEQUACY OF AMERICAN STATISTICS

Much valuable information even now exists in the offices of departments of health in American cities which is not being utilized, and in hardly any city is any persistent effort made to interest the public in this subject, which transcends in public importance many of the questions on which a vast deal of discussion is lavished. If an exceptionally high or low birth rate or death rate is recorded for a given period, that fact may receive brief mention in the newspapers, but beyond this little attention is paid to reports dealing with the records of vitality. One reform urgently needed is the preparation of official health publications in such form, and the presentation of the conclusions and inferences which their figures justify in such a way, as to appeal to the average reader, for whom they should be primarily intended.

With very little additional effort in the compilation of records now collected in many cities, reports could be made to throw much light upon such vital problems as the relation between morbidity and occupation, between the vitality of children and the age and occupation of their parents, between the proportion of stillbirths and the employment of mothers. The relation of mortality to the density of population, the influence of immigration upon birth, death, and morbidity rates, the effect of consanguinity upon the fecundity of marriage, the incidence of disease upon the various elements of the population, and the relation between infantile diseases and the ages and occupations of parents, could be shown. Needed illumination could be given to important social problems such as race suicide.

On all of these subjects certain popular beliefs and opinions are current, but few of these have been put to a comprehensive statistical test. It would be exceedingly valuable to have bases for definite conclusions on these and other related subjects.

In 1911 the Health Department of New York City, realizing the deficiencies of its vital statistics, appointed a committee of statisticians to advise them in the matter.

The committee made a few simple but highly practical recommendations. They suggested that the existing Bureau of Records be enlarged into a Bureau of Vital Statistics with three subdivisions—one of Records, one of Research, and one of Publicity. The increased cost to the city of this reorganization was computed at only $40,000; but the proposal was rejected by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of the city on the plea of economy.

In order to urge upon the city the necessity of appropriating the necessary means for the reorganization of the Bureau of Records, and also to impress the medical profession as well as the lay public with the importance of complete and exact, promptly published, vital statistics, and their service to science as well as to administration, the Public Health, Hospital, and Budget Committee of the New York Academy of Medicine has prepared a report on vital statistics and health reports of New York City. In this report it indorsed the recommendations of the Committee of Advisory Statisticians for a reorganization and enlargement of the present Bureau of Records; but it went further, and gave a detailed outline of what, in its judgment, the reports of the Bureau should contain. The Committee urged the appropriation of the needed funds, and made an appeal to the medical profession for co-operation in the prompt and exact recording of births, deaths, and sickness. In spite of all the efforts of the Department of Health, only ninety-five per cent of births are registered with the Department, while the per cent of reportable cases of contagious and communicable diseases is very much less. The value of our vital statistics depends, in a large degree, upon the good will of our physicians.

The Committee has also recommended that instruction in the methods and principles of medical and vital statistics be given in the medical colleges, and, following this up, it prepared an outline of such a course, with broad social and administrative bearings, which was

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submitted to the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association.

AUTOPSIES AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Closely connected with the problem of correct vital statistics is the question of medical competency. Many death certificates do not give the true cause of death because of the carelessness, neglect, or intent of the physician, many, however, and these are numerous, are faulty because of the ignorance of the physician as to the real cause of death. Definite proof in many instances can be furnished only by autopsies.

This brings us to a subject in connection with which it is entirely within the facts to say that the advancement of medical science and the promotion of public health is greatly hampered in the United States by the groundless though understandable prejudice of the general public against the extension of the privileges of hospitals in the matter of performing autopsies. This prejudice arises largely from ignorance of the importance of post-mortem examination and from popular confusion of autopsies with anatomical dissections. Unfortunately, there is a continuous effort on the part of zealous but misguided individuals and organizations to increase this prejudice by misrepresentation of the facts.

The great value of autopsies, not only to the medical profession but also to the members of the general public whom that profession serves, is beyond question. If we wish to add to our store of medical knowledge, if we wish to turn out good physicians, if we are to have reliable mortality statistics, there must be more post-mortem examinations in the hospitals. A comparative study of this subject which the Public Health, Hospital, and Budget Committee of the New York Academy of Medicine recently published shows to what extent American physicians are deprived of this important source of technical skill and exact knowledge.

While eighty to ninety per cent of the persons dying in English, Canadian, German, and Austrian hospitals come to a necropsy, the per cent of autopsies in the largest hospitals in this country is about ten, and in some instances it is considerably less than that. Studies of the number of correct clinical diagnoses as revealed by autopsies show that many important diseases fall below fifty per cent in recognition, and some even below twenty-five per cent. The trustworthiness of some of our death statistics, under the circumstances, may easily be conjectured. Professor Bashford, director of the Imperial Cancer Institute in London, asserts that returns from Ceylon with regard to cancer are more reliable than those of New York! The same is true of other important diseases.

There is a general belief, which is supported by such statistics as we have, that certain diseases, such as cancer, affections of the kidneys, and heart disease, are rapidly increasing in this country. Whether they actually are increasing at any such rate as seems to be indicated cannot be determined until provision is made for far more ample post-mortem examinations. In view of this fact, the Committee has recommended that a campaign of education be undertaken by medical organizations to acquaint the public with the dependence of medical progress and education upon the extension of post-mortem examinations in hospitals, that effort be made to secure legislation similar to that of European countries in reference to this subject, and that meanwhile hospital rules be so framed as to facilitate the performance of autopsies in cases where they are likely to prove of value. By aiding in this movement the public at large will serve its own interests by helping to advance the cause of medical progress.

(This article will be followed in the next issue of The Outlook by another on the same general subject, written by the same authors.)

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THE SITUATION IN MEXICO

BY AN AMERICAN RESIDENT

This article comes from a man who has for many years been engaged in business in Mexico. We print it, not because we agree with all its conclusions, but because it gives a first-hand and vivid impression of conditions as they appear to an American who knows the country well. Elsewhere we discuss the subject editorially.—THE EDITORS.

WHILE the American newspapers are daily carrying several columns of matter relating to Mexico, to one who has been living in that country the amazing ignorance and misunderstanding which exists not only in the mind of the ordinary citizen, but, judging from Washington reports, in the Department of State itself, as to the actual conditions and situation there, is astonishing.

In all previous revolutions in Mexico, with the exception of Juarez against Maximilian, when Juarez was backed by a national sentiment of more or less strength, it has been one man against another—some one man on the outside trying to oust the man in power. But to-day that is not the case. It is not one man against the Government, but a dozen men all working without organization or cohesion, but more or less to the same end, viz., the overthrow of the existing Government. Carranza, a man of considerable ability, controlling several thousand men, raises the standard of constitutionalism. Maytorena in Sonora cries "Secession;" Contreras and Pesequira, "Restoration and justice;" and Zapata, really the only consistent one in the lot for the last three years, says, "The cause," meaning the settlement of the land question.

These various leaders and others mentioned, some being men of good ability and intelligence, are seeking power and control of the country only for their own personal interest, but they are holding their men and gaining recruits daily by an appeal to the socialistic instinct which lies dormant in every poor and downtrodden man such as the peon of Mexico.

To-day the revolution in Mexico is a *class* revolution, not one of individuals or principles, and the absurdity of our Government trying to "mediate" bespeaks an almost pitiful ignorance of conditions.

Our Ambassador to Mexico, Mr. Henry Lane Wilson, has been absolutely right in his position and attitude, viz., either acknowledgment of the Huerta Government or intervention. An acknowledgment of the Huerta Government within two or three weeks of its installation would have been better for all Americans and American interests in Mexico, so far as sentiment is concerned; but, as a matter of fact, it would not have changed things very much. Huerta might have been able to get a little more money or he might not. Bankers are cautious people, and the nations which have money are holding on to it pretty well for their own use; but even so, it would only have prolonged matters a little. At the same time Huerta was the only Government there was; he had a Cabinet of the most representative men in Mexico, and the sentimental feeling in Washington regarding the death of Madero should not have been allowed to interfere with more practical questions.

Our present Administration is rather positive on the point that when an American goes into a foreign country to invest his capital and work, he does that at his own risk—which attitude may or may not be proper; but, carrying out that idea to a logical end, it should also hold the view that any one taking the Presidency of Mexico most assuredly does it at his own risk, too.

Madero's murder was deplorable, but it is argued that there was no other course to the successful revolutionists. Madero was an idealist, and more or less of a crank, as we would express it; but there was not a drop of cowardly blood in him. He would not sign a resignation, and consequently some one had to sign it for him, and he could not be left free to deny his signature! Had he really resigned, it is said, there is no question that he would have been allowed to leave the country.

The condition of the country to-day is hopeless. There is hardly any State that is not disaffected, and the Government controls only the territory immediately adjacent to the railway as far north from the City of Mexico as Zacatecas. For five months there have been no trains through from Laredo, Piedras Negras,

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or Juarez, or any other border point except, for a short time, from Matamoras. North of Zacatecas there is not a mine or manufacturing industry of any kind that is running, and south of Zacatecas there is nothing doing ten miles away from the railway.

The Government is bankrupt; the railway system of some 13,000 kilometers is bankrupt, and it will take $20,000,000 to put its physical condition back to where it was two years ago. If the truth were known, most of the banks would be found to be insolvent, and thousands of men supposed to be and rated as wealthy are pawning their jewelry. Take, for instance, the town of Sombrerete, a place of some 10,000 or 12,000 inhabitants; you cannot buy a spool of thread or a lead pencil or a yard of cloth in it; even the shelving in the stores has been gutted; and 3,000 men who might be and should be working there are drifting into the revolutionary ranks. The miner as a rule is not a natural revolutionist; he prefers to work and take his chances on stealing a little rich ore to help out; but present conditions are forcing him into rebellion or outlawry, and the longer he keeps at that the harder it will be to induce him to return to legitimate work.

So far as the lives of Americans and other foreigners in Mexico are concerned, they are comparatively safe as long as they consent to have their horses and mules, money, and general supplies taken from them without protest; but the slightest resistance outside of talk is a death warrant.

Take, for instance, the case of Gorro, a Russian by birth and a naturalized American citizen, an engineer in charge of a mine who thought he was there to protect and save his company's property. A bunch of Federal soldiers came to his property and demanded certain stocks and supplies. In the course of the argument a Federal soldier was killed or wounded and Gorro was badly wounded in both arms and one leg, so that he was practically helpless; he succeeded, however, in barricading himself and could have held out probably for some little time.

He was growing very weak, however, and after a parley, in which they promised to spare his life, he let them in. Now Gorro was a man who took great pride in his personal appearance, had spent large sums on his dentist, and had practically a full set of solid gold bridge-work. One of the soldiers took a fancy to the gold teeth, and, putting a finger in his mouth, tried to pull them out, but Gorro, in a last effort, bit the man's finger through, if not entirely off; so the soldier picked up a rock about the size of a paving-stone, smashed his head in, and broke his jaws off—and got the teeth. And these were Federal troops, not bandits.

Ambassador Wilson is somewhat in error in characterizing all opponents of the Government in arms as "bandits." Some of the leaders are men of more than ordinary intelligence, with good ideas as to organization and discipline among their men. As an example take Natera, the man who took Zacatecas. He had a force of 1,000 or 1,200 men, poorly armed and equipped and short of ammunition. The Federals had 500 or 600 men only, but they were well armed and equipped, had rapid-fire guns and all advantage in position, but at the end of the second day's fighting Natera rushed the town and took it gallantly by assault, the Federals making their escape as best they could.

Within twenty minutes after getting control of the city he had the place thoroughly policed, with a man at every corner ordered to shoot without question any one who showed signs of looting or brutality.

The next morning he called the leading citizens together and told them how much money he wanted, and that they could form a committee and apportion it as they saw fit. By eight o'clock that evening he had it—something over $200,000; but on learning that the school-teachers and lower municipal employees had not been paid in some time, he turned back $35,000 to be used for that purpose. He also opened all the pawnshops, letting the people have their pledges back at 25 per cent of their original loan.

Natera was in Zacatecas some ten days, and there was not a case of drunkenness among the men, not an instance of ill-treatment of any citizen or looting of any kind.

He did take all the arms, ammunition, uniforms, saddles, and other Government property he could carry, and he did take all the good horses there were in town irrespective of who owned them, but he was very civil about it, apologized for the necessity, and gave a receipt and left other poor, half-starved horses in their places.

When he went away he took about six hundred new voluntary recruits with him.

Natera had a staff of about twenty men, comprising some of the best telegraphers, electricians, and mechanics in Mexico; and it would seem that his conduct in this instance

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at least should remove him from Mr. Wilson's bandit class.

Huerta's strength lies in four things: first, his personality, which is that of a strong man, seeking an end by direct methods; second, the support of the Catholic party, which is the only party in Mexico with organization and dependable membership—it is very strong, but it is not in the majority, and for that and for no other reason its members are supporting Huerta, waiting for a chance to slip in some man closer to their reactionary ideas; third, the support of the Haciendados, or large landowners, who see in Huerta the only man who stands between them and spoliation; last but not least, Blanquet. Blanquet, now Minister of War, is one of the old Diaz type, absolutely fearless and absolutely merciless. Blanquet is the man who was sergeant of the firing squad that executed Maximilian, and it was he who gave him the *coup de grâce*. Blanquet is the man who was intrusted by Diaz with every hard job of political murder and extermination, and Blanquet is the man who arrested and made Madero prisoner. He is commander of the Twenty-ninth Battalion, a regiment of men absolutely devoted to him and who comprise the Palace guard; and so long as he is loyal to Huerta, Huerta will retain control of the Federal District. Blanquet may not be able to make a President, but he can unmake one in ten minutes if he wants to.

Huerta's weakness lies in the fact that he is seeking the impossible and does not understand the situation. He thinks he can crush the rebels by force of arms and return to the old Diaz régime of centralized government, but that day has passed away forever in Mexico.

With such a condition of anarchy, it is almost criminally absurd for the United States even to dream of bringing these people together and restoring order by any legal procedure. To talk of an election, when even in Mexico's most peaceful days an election was a farce, is beyond the power of derision; and to keep hands off and acknowledge Carranza as a belligerent and lift the embargo on arms means chaos in place of anarchy.

If Huerta resigned and Carranza was made President to-morrow, it would not change the situation a particle. Not a single leader of the revolutionary forces trusts the other to divide the spoils fairly or to carry out any particular legislation which their people ask. There might be a few weeks of comparative quiet, until each saw what he was going to get, and then it would commence all over again.

If the foregoing statement of conditions is correct, there can be but one outcome; and whether the President and his Cabinet like it or not, whether Congress likes it or not, and whether the people like it or not, that outcome is intervention. There is no other possible solution.

Intervention would be serious, but not to the extent which many suppose. There is a large element of responsible Mexicans who are secretly wishing and praying for it, and if it was once fully understood and believed that we did not wish to take or annex their country, it would not be long before there would be a very strong element giving open assistance to the restoration of order.

Why are such representative men as Mondragon, Felix Diaz, de la Barra, and others leaving their country in its hour of direst need on flimsy and trumped-up diplomatic or business missions? Simply because they are afraid for their lives. Why is Huerta allowing them to go? Simply because it's the easiest way of getting rid of them, and at that Mondragon would never have reached Vera Cruz alive had he not been accompanied by his friend the British Minister, who went to the coast with him to see him off. It would have been a little raw and unpleasant to have had an accident to or a rebel assault on Mondragon's train, with a chance of injury to Stronge.

The serious side of intervention is, not the fighting and possible loss of life, which will be negligible, but the administrative questions.

It is hardly conceivable that the Mexicans will admit us to their country even for the purpose of policing it without protest or resistance, although if they had any patriotism or love of country one side or the other would do it; therefore the natural first step will be to take all their ports, both sea and inland. This will be a matter of twenty-four to forty-eight hours, and probably without the loss of a single life.

Next, advances must be made to the interior from, say, Laredo, Tampico, and Vera Cruz; and, presumably, wherever Mexicans in office are found who are willing to assist in pacification and keeping the wheels of government running, they will be retained and protected without regard to whatever party or faction their sympathies may incline. The

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Mexican likes office and has no sense of humor; he likes to talk about his country and his last drop of blood; but after a few weeks it will not take a great stretch of the Mexicans' imagination or casuistry, in connection with good gold money regularly paid, to convince them that those who are really serving their country best are the ones who are assisting the Colossus of the North to restore order even at the sacrifice of their personal pride.

Within thirty days thereafter we will be in the City of Mexico in control of all governmental departments, and there our troubles begin. The administration of a government for fifteen millions of people is not easy under favorable conditions, but how much harder where there will be both open and underhand resistance? Then will come the problem of getting together a Congress that will pass and put in effect land laws more or less a combination of those of New Zealand and Ireland, which are vitally necessary to the pacification and prosperity of the country.

It will not take long, nor will it take many men, to open and maintain communication over the principal railway lines; but it will take several years before a large proportion of the men now in arms drift back to their usual orderly occupations, and before the bitterness and hatred engendered by the last three years of fratricidal strife have become forgotten or at least dormant, and until elections as we understand them can be held, and the people taught to respect and submit to their results.

The financial expense to the United States will in the end be nothing. Mexico is a rich country, and, well administered, she will have no trouble in paying the interest and principal of the hundred millions or so which she will finally owe this country.

EVENING IN THE DESERT

BY MAX W. BALL

Sunset—
A flaming gold and crimson-flaunted sky,
With fainter red and gold on snow-crowned peaks afar,
And all the open, barren wastes between
Transfigured lie, suffused in splendor soft:
God's goodness glorifies a weary world.

Twilight—
Against a sky of softest saffron glow
The rocky ruggedness of near-by hills,
Clear-cut in forms of darkest misty blue,
While paler purple haze the distance fills:
God's precious peace pervades a quiet world.

Starlight—
Beneath a sky of deepest indigo
The desert looms in half-seen shapes grotesque—
Mysterious, like a strange, enchanted land;
While from the brilliance of the low-hung stars
God's love looks down upon a sleeping world.

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THE SPECTATOR

RICH, round, and resonant, the operatic voice rolled out from the slit in the amazing rosewood box. The Spectator frankly halted on the sidewalk to hear the aria through, amusing himself as he did so by watching the attitudes and sheepish, introspective expressions of the other eavesdroppers, a score or more, all with their ears cocked wisely like so many robins listening for worms. Not one in the crowd but was sufficiently in the secret of the mechanical voice—it was some superior kind of record with the twang left out—yet few could resist pressing near to the door of the shop and peering in as if to spy the opera star himself. And how foolish they looked as they caught themselves doing it!

The Spectator has "had it in" for mechanical voices since a day, not many summers ago, when he and Mrs. Spectator, sick for the quiet of the real wilderness, journeyed at some expense and infinite trouble to the shores of a lovely little wooded lake miles from town. Not a soul in sight, as with long sighs of contentment they settled themselves at the foot of a great pine. Not even a boat. No sound save the delicious cluck, cluck of small wind-born wavelets against the stones. The wanderers relaxed and let the healing beauty sink into their tired souls. And then—but you know already! A wheezy snarl, "When fa therlaid thecar peton the stairs!" (The syllables are the phonograph's.) Followed by a nasal ode to the Stars and Stripes, concluding, "*Hon*est, you're a grand—old—ra-aag!" The Spectator opines that a law should be passed that when voices in boxes are introduced into Eden, they should be of a certified quality. This fellow, now winding up a brilliant coloratura passage, was qualified to sing in harmony with almost any setting.

So thinking, the Spectator was turning away, when an exceptionally pretty little girl of perhaps ten pushed eagerly by him to a place at the front of the crowd, and an elderly lady, striving to detain the child, jostled him and apologized. "The most impossible child!" she murmured, in exasperation, as the little girl wormed her way to the very door of the shop, where a new record was in process of getting started. "She *will* stop to stare in shop windows, and as for player-pianos and phonographs, I simply can't get her by them." The Spectator was interested. "Why shouldn't she look in shop windows?" he queried, as the lady seemed to think him of an age to be spoken to without violence to decorum; "and why, if I may ask, shouldn't she listen to the free phonograph concerts? I'm sure this one is abundantly worthy an ear." The lady's face was one protest. "Oh," she cried, "but it's so unspeakably *common!*" Then affrightedly gauging the scope of the implication, she hurriedly gathered up her small charge and fled.

Following more slowly, the Spectator pondered. Common! There's something singularly American yet undemocratic about that. Not vulgar, mind you. There was nothing remotely vulgar about listening to glorious music superbly rendered, nothing, that is, except that the people, decent, presentable people, were doing it. That seems to be a sufficient reason in the minds of a large class of Americans for leaving a thing undone. The Spectator recalled with a smile how one very warm day he was stranded in a dusty suburban square, with no prospect of the trolley he wanted for half an hour. Came another trolley going his direction, but halting at a public park. The Spectator elected to get on to the greenness and shade of the pleasure-ground to await his own car. When, after a soothing interval, it came, he climbed into a seat occupied by acquaintances. A certain reservation sounded in their greetings, and before long one of the ladies remarked interrogatively, "You were at —— Park?" The Spectator explained. "Oh," she cried, in tones of relief. "My dears, Mr. Spectator wasn't really *at* —— Park; he was only waiting there for his car!" And the Spectator saw that his reputation was cleared. Remember, please, it was not a merry-go-round kind of place—just trees and sward. It wasn't even peanutty. The Spectator fancies that much of the abhorrence of places frequented by the *hoi polloi* might be laid at the door of the incriminating peanut.

In Europe it is not like this. Band concerts on summer evenings are free in many

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a Continental city; the people can go, do go, but that does not cause *the* people to refrain from listening to great music rendered by the royal military band. They may sit at tables apart, or they may, as at Antwerp, promenade under the swaying lanterns strung beneath the trees. The very poor are not here, to be sure—the shilling fee would keep them away. But neither is the place abandoned to the dead level of the solvent masses. A certain *éclat* pertains to the affair, despite the obvious fact that plain burghers are here with their wives, as well as Flemish artists, Flemish musicians, and even Flemish dandies and ladies of fashion. Or, take the Lange Linie in Copenhagen, that wonderful sea promenade where Danes of all ranks are wont to loiter in the long bright summer twilight. Put the Lange Linie in an American city and how long would it be before it was given over to the so-called lower-middle class, the "somebodies" feeling it incumbent on them to explain themselves if caught sauntering there?

The Spectator supposes that if the Swedish Skansen—the great open-air folk museum—could be translated into America; if, in place of ancient carved houses from Delecarlia and Halland and Gotland, we had a collection of reconstructed Colonial houses furnished with real antiques, and occupied by people in Colonial dress; and if, in place of rollicking peasant dances, we had reproductions of old-time singing-schools and spelling-downs; and if, in place of the Lapp encampment, we put real American Indians—if, in short, we gathered in some National park a complete living exhibit of all phases of pioneer American life, it would be only a season or two before the thing was vulgarized to a mere "show." Skansen is not a show, not to the Swedes, at least—it is intensely serious and concentratedly national.

The Spectator proposes to do anything and everything in itself worthy to be done, if he does risk incurring the blasting charge of commonness. Shop windows? He is a regular student in that people's university. What's at the bottom of this taboo of shop windows? If one is to ignore them simply because the human animal finds them interesting, and one wishes to differentiate one's self as far as possible from the human animal, then the Spectator cries, "Out upon such caddish snobbery as that!" Is it that the man of means is supposed to have so many opportunities of studying bronzes and enamels and pottery and antiques in the drawing-rooms of his acquaintance that he has no need to delve in the mine of the public shops? The Spectator demurs.

Mrs. Spectator suggests, no doubt to change the subject, which bids fair to get personal, that one reason why things are different in Europe is that over there class distinctions are perfectly understood. Your English squire will look you in the eye and say, "Of course we middle-class people—" Fancy hearing that in America! The European, in the presence of acknowledged social superiors, has no "just-as-good-as-you-are" attitude of mind. He may even frankly model his deportment on that of those he deems qualified to set the fashion. With such a state of things, it is comparatively easy for the gentler born to give tone to affairs in which all take part. Also, Mrs. Spectator urges, in apology for her native land, that in Europe they have not the mixture of races and customs with which we have to contend. Best of all, for she is an optimistic soul, she says we are getting over it, citing the public Christmas tree celebrations in several American cities, in which in the largest spirit of real democracy all sorts and conditions of men have taken part.

Heartily does the Spectator concur in the belief that there is at the bottom of every true American soul something that responds to any honest appeal of genuine democracy, even if we *are* inclined, more especially our womenkind, to accept too readily artificial standards having no basis on human fact. When he hears a statement like this (it was many fashion periods ago), "Certainly, no *lady* would wear a ready-tied four-in-hand that hooks!" uttered with a deep sense of moral conviction, he feels that we need courses in the economics of relative values in human intercourse. Heartily does he hope to see the growth of the larger democracy. For if we are to go on absorbing immigrant hordes, making them over to the American ideal, *whose ideal is it to be?* Whose indeed, if those thus far blest with the best chance in life elect to seclude themselves so far as possible from the observation of the multitude? A fair question, is it not?

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THE NEW BOOKS

Jews of To-Day (The). By Dr. Arthur Ruppin. Translated from the German by Margery Bentwich. Henry Holt & Co., New York. $1.75.

This book is decidedly worth reading. Its author is a Jewish scholar of ample learning and copious information. It is a sociological study of the question whether Jews are to continue to exist as a distinct social group. A process of disruption and assimilation to surrounding neighbors is now apparent. The causes of this experience and its various phases are reviewed in large detail as a constant menace to Judaism. This centrifugal force, however, may be balanced by the centripetal. The nationalist spirit has been awakened, and with strong justification. Its foundations are both in race value and in cultural value: "In the Jew of to-day we have what is in some respects a particularly valuable human type. . . . In respect of intellectual gifts the Jews can scarcely be surpassed by any nation." The aim of Jewish nationalism is "the creation of a self-contained Jewish economic life by a return to agriculture." This has already begun to be realized in Palestine, where Hebrew—the only tongue in which Jews of different lands can understand each other—has become a living language. Here the problem of a persistent Jewish nationalism awaits the hopeful solution proposed by the Zionist movement, which Dr. Ruppin favors as "*the last desperate stand of the Jews against annihilation.*" Here he anticipates that what took place in the sixth century B.C., when a small remnant of the exiles in Babylon returned to Palestine, will again come to pass. The nation whose symbol is the bush that burned and was not consumed will then "enter on a new lease of life."

First Hague Conference (The). By Andrew D. White. The World Peace Foundation, Boston. 55c.
Two Hague Conferences (The). By Joseph H. Choate. Princeton Union Press, Princeton, N. J. $1.

Little as these two volumes are, they are of great weight if one wishes to know something about the development of international law and comity. The authors are veteran diplomats and publicists. Mr. White's book describes the First Hague Conference; Mr. Choate's, both Conferences. To the first Conference Mr. White was a delegate, and to the second, Mr. Choate. Each man left a distinct, individual impress on the Conference with which he was associated. Mr. White's work was seen in the establishment of the Permanent Court of Arbitration; indeed, with the possible exception of Lord Pauncefote, no one in the first Conference, we believe, made a more successful contribution to the establishment of that Court. The pages in which Mr. White's work is described—and described familiarly because the pages are reprinted from his autobiography—should be read by every one who would understand the difficulties in the way of bringing about one of the greatest triumphs of present-day civilization. Using his influence as our Ambassador to Berlin, where he enjoyed much Court consideration, Mr. White was finally able to overcome Germany's opposition to the establishment of the Hague Court. We are glad that the volume includes the full text of Mr. White's decisive letter to Prince von Bülow, the Imperial Chancellor—truly a historic document. To the glory of our Government, in the same way at the Second Hague Conference Mr. Choate was foremost in the endeavor to commit that body to the idea of perpetuating these Conferences so that they should become a kind of International Parliament. Secretary Root, it will be remembered, instructed our delegates to declare that further Conferences should be held without fixed periods. Mr. Choate succeeded in bringing about an agreement that a third Conference should meet after a period analogous to that which had elapsed since the meeting of the First Conference. Thus, as Mr. Choate remarks in this book, "where the last Conference left its work unfinished the new Conference will take it up," and progress should be steadily made. The text of the first volume is prefaced by some interesting introductory pages written by "E. D. M."—doubtless Mr. Edwin D. Mead. The text of the second volume has a similarly interesting introduction from Dr. James Brown Scott, Secretary of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. But the books lack indexes. Small as are these volumes, such neglect seems inexcusable to one who would use them for instant reference.

Our World: The New World-Life. By Josiah Strong, D.D. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. $1.

Dr. Strong's well-known work, "Our Country," appeared a quarter-century ago, directing thought to a National crisis, its problems and perils. This volume is of similar nature, with the difference indicated by its title. The first of a series of four on its subject, it is limited to delineation of the new world-life now manifest in a new tendency, new forms, and a new ideal, with a statement of the world-problems it has brought forth, and an analysis of these to show their nature and urgent importance. They are the problems of industry, of wealth, of race, of the individual and society, of lawlessness and legislation, and the problem of the city. The volume is packed full of history and of social phenomena and statistics, digested and marshaled into statements that are arguments of convincing force, and illuminate both the wise and the foolish way of meeting the case in hand. Dr. Strong deals with his subject as a statesman as well as a prophet, and has added a most important supplement to the library of recent

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volumes in our social problems and perils. On the broad basis thus laid his succeeding volumes will show how the new world-ideal must be realized, the responsibility that is linked with the hope of it, and the leadership to it to which our Republic is called. In the present volume all nations are brought together, but America is in the center of the scene.

World Soul (The). By H. Fielding-Hall. Henry Holt & Co., New York. $2.75.

The author has not acquainted himself with modern theological progress. He tells us that religion has failed to explain the phenomena of life, and has been "abandoned." Science can do it with Weismann's theory of "matter endowed with soul." The hypothesis of a World Soul "is a complete explanation of all phenomena of life, of thought, of all the religions, of the life of Jesus, and of his teaching." This World Soul "permeates matter and expresses itself through matter." Mr. Fielding-Hall seems never to have heard of "the indwelling God proclaimed of old." He thinks of God with the mediævalists who regarded him as outside the universe: "Having created the universe under law and placed in it a World Soul to develop it, he leaves it alone." The divine immanence, a corner-stone both of Biblical and of distinctively modern theology, has dispossessed such a phantom of rational standing. Mr. Fielding-Hall quotes freely from the Bible, but ignores its teaching that God "is above and through and in all," and that "in him we live and have our being." The soul of man is defined as emotion. "The more emotion you have, the more soul you have." The same is said of the World Soul: "it is emotion," and emotion "is not subject to law," while it always "acts toward the realization of its purpose." The best to be said of it is that it is a dim simulacrum of the divine reality, the self-existent, absolute Life which inhabits and rules the universe it creates.

Christian Tradition and Its Verification (The). By T. R. Glover. (Angus Lectures, 1912.) The Macmillan Company, New York. $1.25.

"To get back to the facts and to know them in their fullness, to win from them all their value and significance," is the aim of the author, an accomplished scholar, and university lecturer on ancient history at Cambridge, England. This involves a going back of the ink and paper of the Christian Scriptures to the facts of experience, a field not so fertile in mooted and unsettled questions. Such a study of experience is a study of life. In such a study the Christian tradition to be verified includes nothing beyond what is of moment for real life, its aspirations, hopes, and effort. Thus simplified by elimination of whatever is not vital to spiritual experience in righteousness, peace, and joy in God, the line of verification here pursued reaches, as does no different presentation of the "evidences" of Christianity, "the things that cannot be shaken." Mr. Glover does not fail to make full allowance for all failures of consistent loyalty to the ideals presented in the evangelic tradition. Confessing these, he shows, from the experience of the early Church and the historical influence of the belief in Jesus upon the Christian centuries, its worth and meaning, point by point, and with cumulative force, as the supreme and final satisfaction of man's religious nature in its quest for God. The volume is remarkably characterized by broad culture, fresh thoughts, and intentness on spiritual reality, especially in the great personality from whom the entire Christian movement springs, and draws fresh life at every stage.

Supreme Reality (The). By Rev. Samuel R. Calthrop. American Unitarian Association, Boston. $1.

Many religious people will hardly credit the fact that there are consistent Unitarians to-day who accept the phrases of the Nicene Creed that were made iron-clad against fourth-century Unitarians. Dr. Calthrop is one such—not the only one. Quoting those phrases, he lauds that Creed as "the masterpiece of ancient Christian thinking . . . a great intellectual, spiritual achievement." When the present reviewer quoted to Master Jowett, of Balliol, some twenty-five years ago, a saying of the same tenor by the late Dr. Hedge, a foremost Unitarian theologian, Jowett was so puzzled as to ask, "Could he have said it in a Pickwickian sense?" Dr. Calthrop explains himself thus: "In it are contained the germs of a true genealogy of the immortal soul of man. . . . What the sacred instinct of their highest thought affirmed of Jesus is ideally true of *Man*." This rests on firm Biblical ground: "Adam was the Son of God," says St. Luke. "We are his offspring," says St. Paul. Biology affirms that all lives spring from one life. Dr. Calthrop regards one infinite life pervading the universe as the ultimate reality. This has also been affirmed by Eucken. But religious thought has hardly more than begun to apprehend this fundamental truth of the all-indwelling God with its transforming power on individual and social life. Dr. Calthrop develops it in the free and independent way in which he himself came to hold it, with full stress on its bearings and upon conduct and character in the genuinely Christian life. "Fatherhood, Sonship, and Brotherhood are the three essentials of a World Religion. Christianity alone proclaims all three." The book should be helpful to those to whom it is dedicated—all who have sought and not yet found the path the writer trod out of darkness into "the light of God."

What Must the Church Do to Be Saved? By P. Marion Simms, Ph.D. The Fleming H. Revell Company, New York. $1.50.

This volume from the study of the busy pastor of an evangelical church culminates in an important suggestion from a significant source. He first presents in full review the various evils,

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charged by critics of existing conditions and confessed by a multitude of earnest Christians, which enforce the serious question in the title of his book. Humiliating as it all is, it were folly not to lay it to heart as kindling for an imperative reformation. Three-fourths of the volume is given to the accumulation of such fuel for the altar of sacrifice for that reform by the renunciation of all that hinders. That the multitude of Protestant sects must somehow be unified is, of course, an essential condition. The author pronounces it a waste of time to discuss any basis of unity that fails to recognize "the essential equality of the churches and the parity of the ministry." But what of its creed basis? To this he comes as the crux of his answer to the question, "What must the Church do to be saved?" But, "Unity in theology is an absolute impossibility." The apostolic Church required only loyalty to Jesus Christ as Lord and Master. We should require no more. "A Christian can be trusted alone with Jesus and his Bible." But must he not believe in the deity of Jesus? Believing in it himself, Dr. Simms replies, "The spirit of Jesus is the important thing," and adds that "many who deny his deity have his spirit in larger measure than many who are more orthodox." On such a basis he believes it possible to unify the Protestant world. This basis was proposed two centuries ago by that stanch Puritan, Cotton Mather: "The terms of communion should be parallel with the terms of salvation." But it is too simple a truth to be accepted without much longer wandering in the wilderness on the way to the promised land.

Old-Fashioned Woman. By Elsie Clews Parsons. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. $1.50.

If Robert Burns could have read "Old-Fashioned Woman," we might have lost the use of a very familiar and convenient quotation. Mrs. Parsons certainly possesses to an unusual degree the gift of making us "see ourselves as others see us." She discusses the social customs of New York and London with the same air of complete detachment with which she handles the superstitions of the Paraguayan Abipones or the traditions of the Kayans and Kenyahs of Sarawak. Indeed, the reader of this interesting volume is not infrequently forced to the conclusion that Mrs. Parsons finds little to choose between the habits of Fijian Islanders and the habits of the Islanders of Manhattan.

Reflections of a Beginning Husband. By Edward Sanford Martin. Harper & Brothers, New York. $1.20.

Mr. Martin's "Beginning Husband" displays a rather unmodern willingness to begin at the bottom, or rather a willingness to begin at the bottom of his own particular social stratum. Fortunately for him and for the simple plot of Mr. Martin's delightful volume, he finds a lady of like mind and inclination. His "Reflections" upon the outcome of his venture, which, despite the proverb, seems to run with acceptable smoothness, make very pleasant reading. The moral of the tale (if it has one) may be summed up for the benefit of all unmarried folk in the words, "Go thou and do likewise."

Mind and Health. By Edward E. Weaver, Ph.D. The Macmillan Company, New York. $2.

The thesis of this book is that the healing of disease is an original part of the divine commission of the Church. The volume is both critical and constructive. It scrutinizes, from the standpoint of present-day scientific mental healing, various systems of religious healing, and brings out their points of strength and of weakness. It lays down a psychotherapy on religious ground, with practical suggestions as to the use which the Church can make of it. President G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University, says in his introductory note: "I see no reason why religion, which in past ages has always exerted such a profound influence upon all matters of health and disease, cannot rehabilitate for itself from the material herein described its old function of healing, which, when it is complete, will have profound significance on the future fate and function of the Church." Of course so-called mental healing is not the only form of healing which concerns the Church. The modern physician and surgeon are engaged in a service that has its roots in religion.

World of Women (A). By J. D. Beresford. The Macaulay Company, New York. $1.35.

In this romance of an imagined near future, a new kind of plague exterminates most of the grown men of England—the survivors wrongly suppose of the whole world also. This leaves the women and children, with a small number of men as helpers, to begin a new civilization, building up from the very bottom. Some of the few men become like Eastern patriarchs of old, with wives and flocks in great numbers; some preserve the civic and social sense and aid in the reconstruction. There is some clever satire and there are bits of pseudo-realism, as well as some passages of doubtful decency. The book is necessarily inconclusive and its ending is ludicrous, leaving the reader with the feeling that he has been "sold."

Unpath'd Waters. By Frank Harris. Mitchell Kennerley, New York. $1.25.

Despite the publisher's kind assurance that this volume contains three of the finest stories in the world, we have enjoyed more than the purely imaginative fiction Mr. Harris's talks in semi-fiction form about certain phases of London life—the dealers' ring in art buying, the Duke and the stock-broker, the rich London Jew and how he *gets* money (not *makes* it but *gets* it, says the Jew narrator). Mr. Harris stands high among English critics and writers about the drama.

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THE READER'S VIEW

ABOUT THE MONTESSORI METHOD

A friend has just called my attention to the article on the "Economic Value of Imagination," by Miss Herts, in The Outlook of June 14, and to Mrs. Fernow's letter commenting on this, in the issue of July 12, and drawing from it a criticism of the Montessori method. As Mrs. Fernow asks for an answer from a Montessorian, it has occurred to me to attempt to clarify the matter somewhat.

Mrs. Fernow seems to be under the widespread misapprehension that it is Dr. Montessori's desire, not only that the children shall use (for instance) the geometric insets only to train their sense of size, shape, etc., but that they shall spend their time exclusively in playing with the geometric insets. And yet Dr. Montessori constantly reiterates that no external influence is to be used upon the children to induce them to occupy themselves with any particular piece of apparatus. Mrs. Fernow says, quite correctly, that a bright child of three or four soon masters the geometric insets. No one would be more unwilling than Dr. Montessori to hold him back in a stage of learning which he has passed. If he has mastered the geometric insets, let him go on by all means to more advanced exercises. It is impossible to imagine where Mrs. Fernow finds any warrant in Dr. Montessori's writings for forcing the child to play with the geometric insets after he has mastered them. It is quite true that, to avoid confusing the immature little mind, she insists that while he is using them he use them in the manner for which they were intended; but as there is not a breath of coercion put upon him to use them at all if he does not care to, it is hard to see how this can blunt his imagination. He is given ordinary children's blocks to play "house" with, or to make into processions of soldiers, etc.; he is furnished with unlimited paper and colored pencils to express any imaginative fancy which may enter his head; he is allowed to play outdoors, with other children or alone, as he pleases, with sticks and stones and sand, whenever he likes and as long as he likes; he is given time and all the modeling clay he can use as the perfectly ductile medium for self-expression or imitation.

As to the oft-quoted ban put by Dr. Montessori on "silly stories," I fancy that if we accept fully her adjective, few of us would care to have our children's minds fed on that diet. Why should children be told *silly* stories? There are plenty that are not silly. What is the especial virtue in their being silly?

I was brought up on "Mother Goose" myself, and when grown up began to feed out those rhymes to the various small children under my care. But it was not long before I noticed (greatly to my surprise) that the intelligent, alert-minded, original children, among those to whom I recited the inspired verse about the cow that jumped over the moon, soon became impatient of this variety of recitation. As long as they were so young that the mere jingle of the words was enough to please their ears and that the meaningless character of the sentences did not distress them, they recited after me, "Peter, Peter, pumpkin-eater," with as lively an enjoyment as they chanted any of the counting-out jingles—"Wire-briar limber-lock, six geese in a flock." But as the vivid little minds developed, I remarked that they passed over the merely nonsense rhymes and picked out for repetition those jingles which tell with some coherence a conceivable story, like "Rock-a-bye Baby" or "I had a little pony, his name was Dapple Gray," rejecting with the most apparent distaste such aggregations of words as "I met a pig without a wig," "He went by the south and burnt his mouth," etc., etc., which merely puzzled and teased their newly awakened sense of sequence and intelligibility. Why not? Why should imagination, that most vital of human faculties, which in adult life is so sorely needed to aid in the comprehension of the real significance of the phenomena about us, why should imagination in childhood be identified with incoherence? Why should Mrs. Fernow assume that a child can only "learn to think" through repeating meaningless formulæ? Such nonsense-doggerel is what is in Dr. Montessori's mind when she objects to "silly stories."

As to the charge, so frequently made, that Dr. Montessori's system gives but small attention to the use of language, I know of no other system of training little children which gives them such direct, carefully analyzed, scientifically applied aid in the mastery of their own tongue. Every day each child in a Montessori school is given separate attention in the matter of his pronunciation; and slight faults, which might without correction grow into incurable bad habits, are checked at the very beginning. Furthermore, he is encouraged at all times to talk if he wishes, to express himself fully, and he always has a sympathetic listener in his Montessori directress. More than this, there is an informal exercise every day in narration—an exercise resembling the "morning circle" of the kindergarten. But, of course, most of all, the answer to this oddest of criticisms of the Montessori method is that the children, mastering with ease, as they do at an early age, the arts of reading and writing, are no longer dependent upon second-hand adult information as to the sources of imaginative narration. A child of five who can write a fluent letter describing a trip into the

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country, or who will, for the mere fun of it, take down accurately, at the dictation of another and slightly older child, a whole story or a poem, is mastering language and self-expression with a degree of completeness which can scarcely be attained by listening to "Mother Goose" jingles.

Furthermore, as to imagination, let it be remembered that no man is so constructively imaginative as the most fully developed type of the trained scientist. It is the tritest of aphorisms that the quality most needed in higher mathematics is a fine quality of imagination. Consequently, let no one fear that an acquaintance with facts, or a capacity accurately to use the senses and to control the body, can do anything but serve and buoy up the only sort of imagination that is worth training, or indeed allowing. For an imaginative flight which does not spring from an undeceived knowledge of fact is in reality either insanity or mendacity.

DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER,
(Author of "The Montessori Mother.")
Arlington, Vermont.

PERSONAL INJURY FACTS AND FIGURES

Can you allow me a brief space in your "Reader's View" section for a few "personal injury" facts and figures? The agitation for "employers' liability" and "workingmen's compensation" laws appears to be well under way. Some pertinent arguments ought to be in every one's hands; they cannot become too familiar:

(1) In Illinois and Pennsylvania about three times as many miners meet death through accident as in the mines of Belgium and France.

(2) In America about three times as many railway employees are killed as in Great Britain; about five times as many are injured.

(3) In a certain group of cases investigated by the Pittsburgh Survey—all fatal accidents to married men—the damages paid by the employer averaged about one-twenty-eighth of the loss to the stricken family.

(4) It appears that certain liability insurance companies receive nearly three dollars in premiums from the employer for one dollar paid to the injured employee in damages.

(5) The compensation nominally paid is still further reduced—about one-half—by the attorney's fee.

(7) It follows that under our present system it costs an employer six dollars to pay an employee one. Efficiency of the legal machine, 17 per cent; wasted in insurance profits, court costs, and lawyers' fees, 83 per cent.

(8) Even these small payments are frequently delayed at the risk of bitter suffering to the injured workmen and their families. In 1906 a Memphis switchman crushed his foot while coupling some cars. A jury awarded him $5,000. He got the money more than four years later, after the Supreme Court of the Nation, with its awful power and prestige, had confirmed his claim. Do we really mean to invoke the highest tribunal in the land every time a workman gets his foot hurt?

(9) Some kind of compensation law has been enacted in twenty-four foreign states (including seven British colonies). These have been joined within the last four years by sixteen States of the Union,

(10) The scope of the proposed legislation is as follows: Classification of injuries according to the method of the ordinary accident policy; fixation by statute of the compensation due for each kind of accidental injury; appointment of a board or commission with the sole and single function of awarding damages to injured workmen and their heirs. Such legislation would inevitably save the public much precious time and money. Whether it would also result in a saving from moral guilt and turpitude is a question for the readers of The Outlook to decide.

Tuscaloosa, Alabama. M. C. BURKE.

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH MEXICO?

As a former resident of Mexico, where I was on the staff of the "Mexican Herald" in 1907, '08, and '09, I am keenly interested in the present Mexican situation; in fact, I am one of the twenty million or more persons who can tell you just what is the trouble, and with your permission I shall proceed to do so.

If the United States will recognize Huerta's government, the war will be over in a short time. If the United States will recognize the belligerency of Carranza's forces, the war will be over in even a shorter time. Personally, I think Huerta is a butcher and that Madero was one of the grandest men I ever knew. I knew him personally. But the point is that the United States of America, by virtue of propinquity and the Monroe Doctrine, is in a position to bring pressure to bear that will end the trouble in Mexico—and the United States is not doing it. While in Mexico I studied the history of the relations of the United States to Latin-American countries in an effort to discover why this country is a joke to all Latin America, while other countries are taken seriously. I challenge any man to find a page in the history of those relations which reflects credit upon the State Department of this country. The nearest thing to a really constructive and statesmanlike act I know of was the visit of Elihu Root. That created a profoundly favorable impression, but I am forced to dismiss it as an incident because it was an act called for by some diplomatic tangle giving this country an opportunity to show its ability or lack of it.

We cannot divorce ourselves from the Latin-American problem. When there is revolution in Mexico, this country has already intervened without any act of Congress. In the present instance we have intervened in behalf of a

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continuation of the war. We hamper Huerta in his efforts to obtain credit, and we prevent Carranza from obtaining arms and ammunition. When it is absolutely essential to our prestige in Mexico to show our strength, we make ourselves the enemy of both sides, so that, no matter who wins, our diplomacy has suffered defeat.

Such is the state of public education and enlightenment in Mexico and other Latin-American countries that revolution is to be expected. I maintain that our Government can, in many instances, dictate who shall win. I would prefer that the Government cast its strength on the side of justice. But if the United States did nothing better than "play and pick the winner," it would be better than for our State Department to appear in the dignified rôle of twiddling thumbs while the market for several millions of dollars' worth of American goods every twelvemonth burns.

I am a firm believer in the Monroe Doctrine, provided the United States will make the discovery that a definite Latin-American policy is necessary, and that inaction does not constitute a wise policy. But, taking the facts as they are, it would have been better for the people of Latin America had there been no Monroe Doctrine. Without that obstacle the capital of Europe—secure in the protection of its home governments—would have been invested freely, natural resources would have been developed, and prosperity would have taught the wisdom of peace, while commercial development would have brought the evolution in politics and public enlightenment that is necessary to win for the people of Latin America the ideal government for which the patriots of those countries are continually struggling with arms.

CHESTER T. CROWELL.

San Antonio, Texas.

THE WAR IN CHINA

The Chinese President, Yuan Shi-kai, is not the kind of man represented by his opponents, among whom is Dr. Sun. President Yuan has been prominent in the Chinese Government for over twenty-five years. He has been before the eyes of the world long enough, and all loyal Chinese and fair-minded foreigners admire him for character and abilities. If he were as he has been represented by the critics, the present trouble in China would have been quite different. The fact that the uprising never made any headway beyond three or four cities shows that the movement lacks popular sympathy and support. Even the great majority of southerners are still loyal to the Peking Government. Four out of the only five Chinese papers in the United States disapprove of this uprising. Only one paper gave some weak arguments for its justification.

Yuan still enjoys the confidence and good wishes of all legations in Peking and of all foreign merchants and consuls in China. The United States contributed the largest share towards making the new China of to-day. She helped to preserve China's territorial integrity in 1900, and remitted about $13,900,000 out of the Boxer indemnity for the education of Chinese students in this country. She withdrew from the Six-Power loan and promptly recognized the new Republic. By these and other benevolent acts of the Government, the United States deservedly earned the gratitude of 400,000,000 people. There is every reason for strengthening the friendship and promoting better understanding between the two nations. Do not let us judge President Yuan by the statement of any one individual. WILLIAM W. CHUNG.

THE DUNKARDS OF LORDSBURG

A paragraph in "By the Way" in your issue of August 2, based on an article in the "Christian Register," in regard to the Dunkards of Lordsburg, California, does injustice to the persons concerned. Having been a teacher in the Dunkard College at Lordsburg, though myself an Episcopalian, I have come into close touch with these excellent people and learned something of their history.

Among the numerous and confusing divisions of the Dunkard sect (or, as they call themselves, the Brethren), the branch in Pennsylvania known as the "River Brethren" is the most peculiar. This branch, with which the "Christian Register" writer evidently confuses the Lordsburg community, has no representatives in this region, so far as I know, but holds to its old customs back in Pennsylvania, where the sect originated among the so-called Pennsylvania Dutch.

The main body of the Dunkard sect, which has numerous churches in southern California, has a large membership at Lordsburg, and has established a college there with a beautiful building and grounds. So far are they from "frowning upon the taking of photographs," etc., that the school includes an efficient art department, while instead of "objecting to newspapers and magazines," the reading-room is carefully supplied with the best, including The Outlook.

The Dunkards of southern California are distinguished by their missionary zeal and by their simplicity of life. They are not lacking in peculiarities of dress and custom. They adhere to the religious custom of foot-washing and the "love feast." They have harmonious congregational singing without an instrument. They have no paid ministers, but there is always somebody to preach and the church is filled. The women wear a distinctive head-dress similar to that worn by those of the Salvation Army, and a light head-covering wherever prayer is offered. In general, great simplicity is the keynote of their customs.

Their doctrines have not prevented the Dun-

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kards from prospering greatly in worldly affairs. On a Sunday morning there is a line-up of automobiles around the little frame church that would do credit to more worldly-wise communities; and at a political meeting where some principle of good government is at issue the bonnets of the saintly faced Dunkard sisters, in their newly enfranchised freedom, mingle quaintly with the masculine crowd.

I can safely say that any external peculiarities of dress or custom remaining among the Dunkards of this locality are in general the expression of a devotion to principle that is unique in my experience. R. JOHNSON.

Glendale, California.

OTTOMAN APPEAL TO CHRISTENDOM

The world has stood aghast over the recent evidences of barbarism among the Balkan peoples, whose heroism it was popular last fall and winter to applaud. These events have created a new situation which it has been very difficult for the " concert of European Powers " to face. Rumania has effectively intervened. Bulgarian ambition for leadership in the Balkan Peninsula has been rudely shattered. The unexpected has again happened in the Nearer East. Turkey, though declared dead by Western doctors, refuses to be buried. She seems to be very much alive in the occupation of her ancient capital, Adrianople.

" Insolent defiance of Europe !" " Obstinate persistence in disregard of her obligation under the London agreement !" it is said.

What do the Turks themselves say? During the last six weeks copies of all the leading Turkish dailies of Constantinople have come to me, about seventy papers in all, and public opinion at the Ottoman capital—public opinion does exist there the last five years—is voiced through these papers with essential unanimity, and may be summarized as follows:

1. The London agreement, the Preliminaries of Peace, is subject to adjustment in details, in reference (a) to boundaries, (b) to the Ægean Islands, (c) to a war indemnity.

2. The atrocities perpetrated upon unarmed Moslems, men, women, and children, during the internecine strife of the allies, facts attested by European officials and newspaper correspondents, absolve Turkey from any previous engagement with those responsible for such barbarous and inhuman acts.

3. Christian Europe is bound to give weight to Ottoman feeling concerning Adrianople, crushed, humiliated, distracted as the Turks now are as a result of the losses and calamities under which they have suddenly been overwhelmed.

4. Turkey was many years ago formally received into the fellowship of European states. Where is the justice of treating her as an outcast just when she is trying, in the face of tremendous difficulties, to become truly worthy of that fellowship? Is this " Christian " policy?

5. It is in the interest of European balance of power and of future peace in the Balkans that the Ottoman people, which still exists, should be able, on the one hand, effectively to protect its capital from attack on its western border, and, on the other hand, to work unitedly and with wisely directed energy in the effort to administer constitutional government in a way to secure the welfare of all races, and to advance, materially, educationally, and morally, *pari passu* with her neighbors of the West.

Old Orchard, Maine. GEORGE F. HERRICK.

AMERICA AND THE EAST

As Mr. George Kennan, in his characteristically convincing manner, drew its vivid picture, in his article in The Outlook for August 9, China's vast trade opportunities are awaiting the advent of the genius of American Industry to avail himself of his due share. However, it should be kept in mind that the expansion of the American commerce in the Far East is absolutely conditioned on the good will of Japan, the gatekeeper of Asia, as is Japanese development in South America dependent on that of the United States.

From this view-point alone, Japan and America owe it to their respective self-interest to be on cordial terms with each other, and it would be short-sighted for this Nation to inflict unnecessarily anything of the nature of insult upon the Japanese, thereby antagonizing the entire East.

Unless this Nation realizes the changed conditions, unless this Nation discontinues her unfair treatment of the Orientals, particularly of the Chinese, unless she revokes the narrow interpretation of treaty obligations, the Americans to come will find themselves cramped in a corner of the Western Hemisphere.

New York City. JUNZO KISHI.

GOVERNMENT BY THE PEOPLE

In The Outlook of July 12, also in the issue of August 16, is a discussion of the source of the phrase, " Government of the people, by the people, for the people," used by President Lincoln in his Gettysburg address. In Webster's reply to Hayne, 1830, in speaking of the origin of this government and the source of its power, he said: " It is, sir, the people's government, made for the people, made by the people, and answerable to the people." These are, in effect, the words used and the ideas expressed later by Mr. Lincoln, and antedate the sermon of Theodore Parker as well as the address of George Thompson, the English reformer, referred to by your correspondents.

Boston, Massachusetts. ALVIN P. WAGG.

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BY THE WAY

The statement made in The Outlook of August 9, apropos of the new edition of the "Standard Dictionary," that "Gifford Pinchot introduced some thirty terms, while Colonel Roosevelt added a number," should have been, we are informed by Mr. Vizetelly, editor of the new dictionary, "Colonel Roosevelt introduced some thirty terms, while Gifford Pinchot added a number"—Mr. Pinchot's "number" amounting to 200 or more. These 200 additions to the dictionary are not new words; they have been in common use among foresters and lumbermen for years; but Mr. Pinchot was the first writer to give them literary sanction.

Thus it seems that the vernacular, the language of the common people, contains a great many words that have been unknown to the dictionary-makers. A recent newspaper writer says that the grammar, also, of the common people is unknown to the books. He speaks in high praise of this "ungrammatical tongue" for the force and directness with which it conveys the thought of the speaker. Here is a fascinating field for investigation by some Walt Whitman among the philologists.

San Francisco is not the only city that feels neglected by Great Britain in the matter of co-operation in a great exhibition. "Great Britain," says an English contributor to the "American Printer," "is not likely to show up effectively at the Leipzig Exhibition next year. Our Board of Trade, *i. e.*, our Government commercial management department, has been very unenterprising."

In the work for social betterment that can be advantageously undertaken by the country church, declare resolutions adopted by a recent Conference on the Country Church, a campaign for better elementary public schools is to be advised. This would involve a plea by the country church for larger school revenues, more enlightened ideals of school efficiency, and better attendance that would result in an increase of literacy in the rural regions. This would undoubtedly react in favor of the increased prosperity of the rural church.

Mme. Cécile Chaminade, perhaps the most famous living woman composer, has lately been made a member of the Legion of Honor in France. This is the third recognition of this kind that she has received, two other countries having preceded her own in recognizing her genius.

If there are any insular Americans—and perhaps they exist—they doubtless think of Sweden as a land of fjords, snow, skis, and good-natured, blond people who make fine servants when they emigrate to America. But really Sweden is very up-to-date. "The large Swedish lithographers," says a trade paper, "have formed a combination. It is capitalized at four million dollars. The trust has floated a 5½ per cent bond loan of about $1,800,000 to pay all the debts of the concerns absorbed."

One of the most remarkable baseball games on record was played at Jersey City recently between the Toronto and Jersey City nines. Twenty innings were played without a run being scored by either side.

"They say there are no good hotels in America in the smaller cities," said the commercial traveler; "but, believe me, when I went to Wilmington, Delaware, I put up at a new hotel that outclassed most of the New York or Chicago houses. Why, the clothes-closet in my room was about as big as the parlor in my flat at home; and, say, when I got into my private bath-tub I thought I would drown!"

"Virtue is its own reward" is an adage that is seldom repeated by the finder of lost property when a substantial money consideration is involved in the restoration of the thing found; but an Oklahoma hunter who trailed and found a little boy who had been lost for several days refused the reward of $500 that had been offered for the child's return; the father's and mother's joy, he said, was reward enough for him. It is news items of this kind that make it seem worth while to read the daily papers pretty carefully.

Boston, it is claimed, has been freed from the fly nuisance by the simple plan of requiring the removal of manure from stables every day and the covering closely of all garbage cans. This scheme of destroying the fly's breeding-places is surely better and more effective than "swatting the fly" after he has become large enough to require swatting.

The Western farmer dislikes the coyote, and a bounty is offered for its pelt; the result is that the coyotes have greatly diminished. But, says the Portland "Oregonian," the killing of the coyotes has resulted in a great increase of rabbits; many experiments have been made to diminish their number by inoculating them with disease, but without satisfactory results. Rabbit "drives" are the only sure remedy; 16,000 jack rabbits were killed in one county in Oregon in this way last winter.

The author of "America," a subscriber writes apropos of a paragraph in this department a few weeks ago, was not a man of "one song." "In the Baptist Hymnal there are sixteen of Dr. Smith's hymns," he says—"among them the popular missionary ode 'The Morning Light is Breaking.' I take the liberty of writing this," our correspondent adds, "because there is an

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effort in certain quarters to belittle both the hymn and its author as unworthy of the place they hold in popular favor."

No other city in this country, a writer in "Good Roads" asserts, maintains so heavy travel on both land and water as does Chicago. As an example of the enormous traffic, the Metropolitan Bridge near Van Buren Street is cited. This bridge, it is said, carries the immense number of 1,200 trains daily.

The leader in present-day theater designing in Germany, Max Littman, says the "Dramatic Mirror," has built a number of theaters of which it may be said that there is not a poor seat in them. He does this by doing away with balconies and using a steep pitch for the seats that enables each spectator to see over the heads of all the spectators in front of him. The Kuenstler Theater in Munich is a striking example of the new method.

It is not often that we so gladly admit making an error as in the case of the report, in a paragraph in "The Week" in The Outlook of August 2, that Muir Woods had been burned in part by the fire that started on Mount Tamalpais, near San Francisco. Later reports state that not a tree in Muir Woods was harmed. We are very glad, and congratulate California and the United States; but lighted cigarettes should not be thrown from car windows into the dry underbrush of any forest. In this case the loss was not as great as it was at first supposed; but it might have been even greater. The offender is just as culpable.

One Englishman at least has faith in American plays. "If you ask me where the plays of the future are coming from," Mr. Lawrence Irving is reported as declaring, "I would say, 'Keep your eye on America.'" Mr. Irving is a son of the late Sir Henry Irving, and is himself an actor and playwright of distinction.

"If you had not arrived to-night we should have been in the hands of the rebels before morning." These words from the lips of President Lincoln in 1861 were treasured in the memory of "Jones of Binghamton" to the latest day of his life, which terminated two weeks ago. Colonel (afterwards General) Jones was at the time in command of the famous Sixth Massachusetts Regiment, the first to respond to President Lincoln's call for volunteers. After the war General Jones made Binghamton, New York, his home, and became noted as the originator of the phrase "Jones—he pays the freight," referring to the scales which he manufactured.

Queenstown, Ireland, is threatened with abandonment as a port of call by the Cunard steamers. While Queenstown possesses a splendid harbor, its entrance is considered dangerous for the biggest steamships of the Cunard Company. The company has therefore given notice that the mails will henceforth be delivered at Liverpool.

"His great head was poised a little backward upon broad shoulders; his upstanding hair and fine-spun beard were of a tawny hue; the eyes of a clear blue. . . The man carried with him an indescribably proud air of tragedy and courage and power. He had the port of a commander. He seated himself at his desk and leaned his arms upon it, lifting his head like a wounded lion." This could have been no other than the author of

> "I am the master of my fate;
> I am the captain of my soul"—

as finely described by L. C. Cornford in a worth-while little appreciation of W. E. Henley recently published.

Sunday-school scholars may well be thankful that they live in these happy days for children. A New York paper announces that "Dr. Mottet will preach a special sermon to the Sunday-school children in the forenoon, on 'Camps and Homes,' and in the afternoon the Sunday-school will enjoy an omnibus ride."

The last work of the late Frédéric A. Bartholdi, the sculptor of the Statue of Liberty, was unveiled recently in Belfort, France. It commemorates the three sieges of Belfort, in 1813, 1814, and 1870.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Green, of Staten Island, are making a 7,000-mile journey in a canoe. They plan to go up the Hudson and through the Erie Canal to Buffalo, through Lake Erie to Ashtabula, thence to Pittsburgh, down the Ohio to the Mississippi, then to New Orleans, and then by a tortuous route back to New York. A few years ago a somewhat similar trip was entertainingly described by N. H. Bishop in a book with the odd title "Four Months in a Sneak-Box."

"People don't have large families these days" is a common remark. But the records of the good old days would have to be searched to find a case like this, reported in a newspaper despatch: "The arrival of twins at the home of Howard Collins, a New Jersey farmer, increases the number of his children to eleven, all born within seven years." Two pairs of twins, a trio of triplets, and four children of the garden variety constitute the eleven.

The strain of American political life is often relieved by flashes of humor. Here is a current example: Dr. Thomas Wilson, of Hudson, New York, bears a remarkable resemblance to Mayor Gaynor, of New York City. This being commented on by a reporter, Dr. Wilson said: "Yes, that's a fact. When I saw your Mayor recently, I told him that I had just been defeated for an elective office in Columbia County because I looked so much like him." The Mayor's rejoinder is not recorded.

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